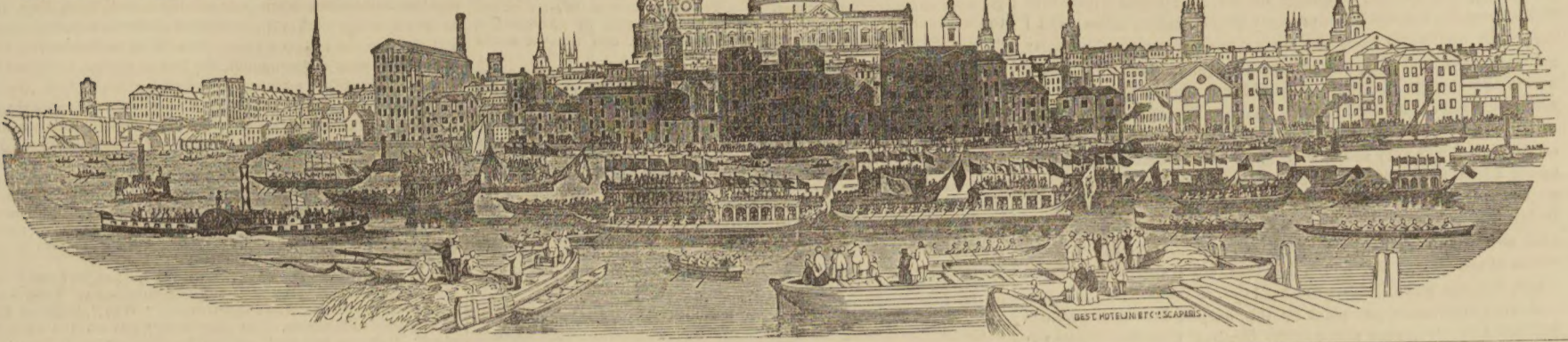


THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1852

{ Two Numbers 1s.,
WITH LARGE PLATE, GRATIS.

The Wellington Funeral.

With this week's "Illustrated London News" is presented a Large Engraving of the Procession of the Wellington Funeral-Car. No copy is issued from this office without the Plate, gratis. Next week, Dec. 4th, another Large Engraving, Gratis, of the Interior of St. Paul's, as it appeared at the moment of the Entombment.

198, Strand, November 27, 1852.

OUR FINANCIAL POLICY.—THE LAND-TAX.

WHATEVER may be the comparative merits of the Free-Trade motion of Mr. Charles Villiers, and of the amendments of Mr. Disraeli and of Lord Palmerston; whatever may be the worth or the grace of the tardy recantation of their past errors by the chiefs and the subordinates of the Ministry; and whatever may be the fate of the present Administration, or the complexion of the next; it is evident that, among the earliest measures to which the attention of Parliament will be directed, are those which involve the principles and the incidence of taxation. The Budget of Mr. Disraeli, or of some other Chancellor of the Exchequer, must, of necessity, open up the whole question of our late and present policy on the all-important points of the gradual emancipation of industry and the equitable distribution of the national burdens. Financial problems—always difficult of solution—are peculiarly embar-

assing at the present juncture; for the Legislature is not called upon merely to raise an annual revenue, but so to apportion the weight of taxation as to bring it into harmony with the policy of Free Trade. Each class claims exemption for itself; and were the Chancellor of the Exchequer to admit the several pleas that ingenuity can invent, it would be impossible to replenish the Treasury. Whatever form taxation may assume, it is always a deduction from wealth; and the only way to avoid injustice is to adapt it to the sources from which wealth is derived. Such was the old constitutional system, before the pernicious scheme of anticipating revenue was adopted, and a National Debt established; since that period, Customs and Excise have been regarded as guarantees for the dividends of the fundholder. Free Trade compels a return to direct taxation; nor, indeed, would Sir Robert Peel have ventured to relax a restrictive tariff, had not the experiment been accompanied by an assessment on property and income. If the commercial policy of that great statesman is to be carried out to its legitimate results, the day will come when revenue, except in the case of such articles as wine, spirits, tobacco, and perhaps a few others, must cease to be collected from articles of consumption.

Prior to the restoration of Charles II. direct taxation was the rule, and indirect taxation the exception. The hereditary crown lands and the feudal dues were the main resources of the national treasury: the latter were abolished in 1660, and an Excise substituted to make good the deficiency caused by their surrender; the former were given up, with very slight reservations, at the Revo-

lution of 1688, and a Civil List created as an equivalent. During the contest for the expulsion of James II., the people were promised that some compensation should be awarded for the abandonment of the feudal dues; and, accordingly, in 1692, the Land-tax was imposed, the rate being four shillings in the pound on the true yearly value of real property, and twenty-four shillings for every £100 personal property (except debts, stock upon land, and household stuff), or 4s. in the pound on £6, the legal interest of money at that time. This ancient precedent contradicts the modern doctrine of a Property and Income-tax being strictly a war-tax, as it was originally intended as an equivalent for the feudal dues which were coeval with the Conquest. And it is also important to observe that the desire of the Legislature was to apportion the tax to the growing or declining rental; for, in the terms of the statute, the collectors of the revenue are directed to assess "after the rate of four shillings in every twenty shillings of the full yearly value, as the same [lands] were let for, or worth to be let, at the time of assessing thereof." However, in 1697, the Legislature, chiefly composed of landholders, contrived to alter the original terms of the Act; so that the tax no longer took effect on the increasing value of the land, but became a fixed annuity on a rigid scale. On that scale the Land-tax Act of 1797-8 was based; although, in the lapse of a century, the landed rental had prodigiously increased. For the 7th section directs that the several quotas to be levied on each borough and county throughout the kingdom shall be rated according to the proportions charged by the 4th of William and Mary.



CONVOCAION OF THE CLERGY.—SITTING OF THE LOWER HOUSE IN THE JERUSALEM CHAMBER.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

It is further to be noted that the Act of William and Mary took effect on personal property and offices. The former was exempted by an Act passed in 1833. The evasions had been numerous and shameful. Mr. Wood, Chairman of the Board of Stamps and Taxes, when examined before the Select Committee on Agricultural Distress, in 1836, stated, in answer to question 9132:—"The working of the Act depends entirely upon the local commissioners; and we know nothing of the assessments which they make, or of the description of property they choose to assess; and I suppose it had never been the custom to assess personal property generally, but that they found that the quota was easily raised within the county, and that they did not choose to disturb the assessment which before had been made. We find that in most districts there was a small charge made for the duty on personal estates, but it was very small indeed. I think, latterly, it was between £5000 and £6000 a year." There used to be charges on pensions, that of the Duke of Marlborough having been referred to in Mr. Wood's evidence; but this department of the revenue has been so loosely managed, that it appears impossible to arrive at the whole of the facts. Mr. Wood, however, did mention an instance where the rate was still levied at 3s. 11½d. in the pound.

A very instructive pamphlet on this subject has been recently published by Mr. Ayres, editor of the *Bankers' Circular*, and its appearance is opportune. It is full of very curious and carefully-compiled tables, and offers many interesting points of comparison. Liverpool now pays to the Land-tax one thirty-sixth of a penny in the pound; Manchester, Preston, and Stockport, one farthing; Leeds and Macclesfield, one halfpenny. In portions of the metropolis the rates are very different. In St. Paul's, Covent-garden, it is 1s. 10½d.; in St. Mary-le-Strand, 1s. 1½d.; in St. Andrew's, Holborn, 11½d. St. Pancras, Marylebone, and Paddington, are only charged one farthing. These inequalities are glaring, but they are fair specimens of the whole system. It is also obvious that they who pay the heavy Land-tax, and also a Property-tax, are doubly assessed on the same estate, which is a flagrant injustice. The aggregate Land-tax of 1797-8 may now be taken to yield £2,000,000; and the tax on land under Schedule A of Property-tax has reached £2,652,951, so that in these cases the burdens are cumulative.

In any scheme for the equitable re-adjustment of taxation, this subject cannot be overlooked. True it is that a portion of the Land-tax has been redeemed under the act of 1798, but it would be easy to get rid of this exemption by compensating the holders, so that one uniform plan might be enforced. Justice is sure to be violated or evaded, if exceptional rules are permitted, and it is on real property, whatever its character may be, that the great weight of fiscal burdens ought to press. At any rate, the dividends of the fundholder should be mainly drawn from that source, from whatever funds the current expenditure is defrayed. The tendency of Free Trade is to cheapen commodities, and add to the purchasing power of all fixed annuities, and even of professional incomes; and it is, therefore, only equitable that they who specially benefit by the commercial policy with which the name of Sir Robert Peel is connected, should furnish the means by which it may be fully carried out into practice. It was inconvenient to the proprietors of nomination boroughs to witness their disfranchisement; to the West India planters, to encounter the competition of foreign sugar; to many of our land-owners, to surrender the Corn Laws; to our ship owners, to abandon the Navigation Laws; and it may be equally unwelcome to the holders of real property to bear an augmented or a permanent tax. But we have commenced a new system, and must accept it with all its consequences. It is a vain attempt to separate our fiscal from our commercial policy. In all directions, we must lighten or remove the weights which press upon the springs of industry. This can only be effected by a complete revision and readjustment of taxation; and, unless statesmen can take a bold and comprehensive view of the whole of this complicated subject, and raise the revenue on such principles as may remove all impediments to the freedom, both of the home and foreign trade, they will not be able to direct the destinies of the empire with credit to themselves and advantage to the people.

CONVOCAION OF CANTERBURY.

THE recent proceedings of Convocation have already been briefly recorded in our Journal. The houses were opened on Friday, the 5th inst. The Archbishop of Canterbury, wearing his Convocation robes, the Bishops of Oxford, Manchester, and Llandaff, wearing theirs; and Deans, Archdeacons, and clergy, in hoods and gowns, attended Divine service, performed in Latin, at St. Paul's Cathedral. This being over, they retired to the Chapter House, where the Royal writ was read, and the members of the Lower House ordered to withdraw and elect a prolocutor. The choice fell upon Dr. Peacock, Dean of Ely. The Convocation was prorogued till Friday, the 12th, when both Houses met in the Jerusalem Chamber at Westminster.

At this meeting an address was proposed to the Crown, when the Bishop of Oxford intimated his intention of moving an amendment, which would have the effect of raising the question of the expediency of reviving the active powers of Convocation, and consequently of the nature of those powers.

The Convocation met again on Tuesday and Wednesday (last week). The Upper House, at its meeting on Tuesday, conceded to the press the privilege of admission in order to report the proceedings. There were present the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishops of London, Winchester, Lincoln, Exeter, Rochester, St. Asaph, Peterborough, Llandaff, St. David's, Oxford, Salisbury, Worcester, Norwich, and Chichester.

A discussion took place at the outset as to the right of the Archbishop to prorogue the Convocation without the consent of his suffragans. The Archbishop said he had no idea of surrendering the right hitherto exercised by his predecessors.

The business of the sitting commenced by the reading of the address to the Crown proposed by the Archbishop of Canterbury. It stated, that there were many of the clergy favourable, and many unfavourable, to the revival of Convocation; and that Convocation was content to leave the matter in the hands of her Majesty. Upon this the Bishop of Oxford moved an amendment, stating that the active deliberation of Convocation should be resumed; but disclaiming the discussion of controverted questions of doctrine, and confining itself to questions of discipline. The Bishop of Winchester opposed the amendment; as did also, though less directly, the Bishops of Llandaff, Worcester, and Norwich. The Bishop of Salisbury supported it. The Bishop of St. David's, dissatisfied with both the original address and the amendment, struck out a third course, in which several, and more particularly the Bishops of Exeter and London, concurred. He proposed that both should be submitted to a committee to ascertain how far they could be united; which suggestion the Archbishop would not say whether he would agree to. Ultimately, the Bishop of Oxford withdrew his amendment, in favour of one drawn up by the Bishop of Salisbury, praying that Convocation might at no distant date be revived, and disavowing any intention of touching doctrinal questions. This was agreed to; as was also an additional clause protesting against Papal aggression.

A committee, consisting of the Bishops of London, Oxford, Salisbury,

Exeter, Winchester, Chichester, and St. David's, was afterwards appointed, on the motion of the Bishop of Oxford, to consider whether an address should be presented to her Majesty, with respect to a measure for the better enforcing of discipline among the clergy. The committee was directed to confer with the Lower House.

Wednesday's business consisted in settling some matters of routine, and in finally passing the address to the Throne.

The Lower House met at ten o'clock. The actual business consisted of the appointment of a Committee of Grievances, to consider the representation of "gravamina" and "reformatio" presented in a paper by Dr. Spry at the previous sitting. The Prolocutor carried the resolution to the Upper House; and on his return reported that the Archbishop had requested that the document be left with him, and that he would send an answer.

Some other matters were disposed of; and the House was in the midst of a discussion on an important paper framed as an address to the Queen, praying that license might be given to protest against the Papal aggression, in which all the branches of the Church within and without Great Britain would be invited to concur, when a message was sent proroguing the sitting until the next day.

The Lower House met accordingly on Wednesday; and the address from the Upper House having been received, several additions were made, one being an expression of regret at the death of the Duke of Wellington. On that portion of the address relating to the meeting of Convocation, which rather hinted than expressed a formal desire for the revival of its active functions, Archdeacon Hare moved an amendment, expressing a desire that her Majesty would take steps "for the speedy convening of a synod, in which the manifold gifts of the lay members of the church may work together with those of her ecclesiastical members." This was seconded by the Rev. Mr. Seymour; but, in deference to the general opinion, the amendment was withdrawn. An attempt was made nevertheless, to raise a discussion. Dr. McCaul, Archdeacon of Lincoln, and Archdeacon Garbett objected to the revival of Convocation. The Rev. Hayward Cox moved an amendment, in opposition to the resumption of the functions of Convocation without lay co-operation, but the amendment was lost by a large majority. Subsequently the address was carried up by the Prolocutor, who reported that their Lordships had agreed to the alterations.

The address of Convocation, as finally amended and adjusted, stood as follows:—

Madam,—We, your Majesty's faithful subjects, the Archbishop, Bishops, and clergy of the province of Canterbury, assembled in Convocation, most humbly approach your Majesty with respectful assurances of loyal affection to your Majesty's throne and person.

And we desire to add our sincere congratulations, that since the last occasion when we enjoyed a similar privilege, it has pleased Almighty God to bless both your Majesty's Royal family and the country at large with a measure of prosperity which demands our warmest thankfulness.

Your Majesty has been graciously pleased to state to your assembled Parliament, that your Majesty has received assurances of a disposition on the part of Foreign Powers to maintain those friendly relations with this country which have a ready been prolonged beyond all former example. And never, perhaps, was there a time when the inhabitants of this land were more generally prosperous, more willingly obedient to the laws, or more loyally affected towards the Throne. It is our earnest prayer to Almighty God that he will continue to ourselves, and extend to all nations, the blessings of peace and unity.

Here we earnestly desire to assure your Majesty of our deep sympathy with the sorrow which your Majesty has so graciously expressed, a sorrow which is even shared by foreign nations, for the loss which the empire is now mourning, in the death of that great warrior and statesman, to whom, above all, it has been owing, under God's all-ruling Providence, that we have enjoyed this long and unprecendented peace and prosperity. We assure your Majesty that we prize, above the splendour of his greatest exploits, that high sense of duty which led him to devote all his faculties to the service of his Sovereign and his country, and to value his most glorious victories chiefly as they secured a lasting peace.

The subject, however, on which your Majesty will expect us to feel the deepest interest, is the state of religion in this land. And here there is much to encourage, whilst there is also much to lament, and much that we hope gradually to amend. Great exertions have been made during the last thirty years, with the desire of providing the means of spiritual instruction for a population increasing beyond all former experience. Much has been done by the awakened liberality of individuals, assisted by recent legislative measures, towards enabling the Church to fulfil the ends of her divine mission. Much, however, still remains to be done; and we assure your Majesty that our heartiest endeavours shall be used to relieve, wherever they exist, the spiritual wants of the population. We feel a confident persuasion that these our endeavours will be seconded by the pious and ready co-operation of our lay brethren in the Church. In connexion with this subject, we cannot but observe, that although the population of England and Wales has been doubled in the last half century, the number of English and Welsh Bishops remains nearly the same as it was three centuries ago; a state of things to which we beg respectfully to invite your Majesty's consideration.

We trust, however, that if the Church has been unable to accomplish all that might be desired, it has yet given no slight proof of activity and power. Fewer churches were built during the whole of the last century than are now consecrated to the service of God in every successive year. Inadequate as are still the means of providing Christian education for the increasing numbers who require it, we thank only acknowledge that great efforts have been made for its extension and improvement.

And great and painful as are the privations of many of your Majesty's poorer subjects in our crowded cities, it must be a peculiar source of satisfaction to your Majesty, that, under the continuous and active encouragement of your Majesty's illustrious Consort, institutions have been formed, and are daily forming, to increase the co-forts of the labouring classes, and to improve their moral and social condition; and, as all true charity has its origin in religious principle, we trust that in this instance, also, proof has been given of the influence of that faith which it is the duty of the clergy to inculcate and maintain amongst the people intrusted to their charge. For whatever has been done or intended of good, we desire to give God the glory, through our Lord Jesus Christ; being deeply conscious of the imperfection of all our endeavours.

In thus referring to the subjects which appear to us especially to concern the well-being of the Church, we cannot omit to speak of those deliberative functions of this Convocation which many members of our Church desire to see again called into active exercise.

We do not, indeed, deem it advisable, at the present moment, to petition your Majesty for your Royal licence to transact such business as we may not enter upon without it; but we think it our duty respectfully to express our conviction, both that its legislative assemblies are an essential and most important part of the constitution of our Reformed Church, and that the circumstances of the present day make it alike more imperative to preserve, and, as far as possible, to improve them; and more particularly that the resumption of their active functions, in such manner as your Majesty, by your Royal licence, may permit, may, at no distant date, be productive of much advantage. We know, indeed, that apprehensions have been entertained that in such case Convocation might address itself to the discussion of controverted questions of doctrine, and a spirit of strife and bitterness be thereby engendered, fatal to Christian charity, and dangerous alike to existing institutions and to our visible unity; and we therefore feel it to be our duty humbly to pray your Majesty to receive this our most solemn declaration of our hearty acceptance of the doctrinal formularies and liturgical offices of the Reformed Church, and our assurance that we regard them as inalienable blessings, and are resolved, by the help of God, to transmit them unimpaired to posterity. And further, we not only recognise, but highly prize, your Majesty's undoubted supremacy in all causes, ecclesiastical and civil, over all persons, and in every part of your Majesty's dominions, as it was maintained in ancient times against the usurpations of the see of Rome, and was recovered and re-asserted as our reformation. In connexion with this grave subject, we feel that your Majesty may expect from us the expression of our solemn protest against that fresh aggression of the Bishop of Rome, by which he has arrogated to himself the spiritual charge of this nation, thereby denying the existence of that branch of the Church Catholic which was planted in Britain in the primitive ages of Christianity, and has been preserved by a merciful Providence to this day, as well as against many which have preceded it, and we desire on this, our first occasion of addressing your Majesty since its occurrence, solemnly to protest, in the face of Christendom, and to lay this, our protest, before your most gracious Majesty.

Both Houses were prorogued till the 16th of February, on the sole authority of the Archbishop, under a protest from the Bishops of Oxford, Salisbury, Chichester, and St. David's. These proceedings of the Convocation have practically altered the relation of that body to the State, by the Archbishop having permitted actual debates in both Houses; thus practically restoring the Church Synod as a substantive and deliberative body.

It is understood that the Committee of Grievances appointed by the Lower House would be called together during the recess by the Prolocutor.

Our Artist has, upon the preceding page, engraved the venerable Chamber at Westminster, with a session of the Lower House. The Jerusalem Chamber has been used as the Chapter House, probably, ever since the Abbey gave up its proper Chapter House to the Crown. Hither Henry IV. was brought from the Confessor's shrine in the Abbey, in a fit of apoplexy, and breathed his last.

It hath been prophesied to me many years,
I should not die in Jerusalem,
Which vainly I supposed the Holy Land;
But bear me to that chamber, there I'll lie:
In that Jerusalem shall Harry die.

Its northern window still exhibits some stained glass, which is ascribed to the period of Edward III. The portrait of Richard II., finely engraved in the "Vestuta Monumenta," was removed not many years ago from the choir, and placed in this chamber.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

We know, gentle readers of our gossiping epistles, that politics are nearly tabooed in your letters from Paris: *mais que voulez vous?* In a place where one sees, hears, dreams of politics; where the cook, when you go to order dinner, entertains you with the political views of the butcher and the charbonnier; where your serving damsel sings Republican songs as she sits at her work, till you tremble at the idea that an *agent de police* will signalise you and your household as being malcontents of the deepest dye; where your portier cannot, for love or money, be induced to bring up your journal till he has smelt over the extracts from the *Moniteur*; where the very children, making dirt-pies in the gutter, fight about the Empire and the Republic; one, we say, lives in such an atmosphere where one can no more keep politics out of one's head or out of one's letters, than Mr. Dick, of simple and kite-flying memory, could keep Charles I. out of his celebrated memorial. We will try, however, to render the doses as homoeopathic as possible, and administer them at as distant intervals as may be, trusting to the above statement of our position to stand excused before you. Here followeth an anecdote not quite new, but none the worse for wear, on the subject of last year's voting for Louis Napoleon's remainin' President.

Two Auvergnats—and, as a natural consequence, *porteurs d'eau*—met in the street; and, stopping their vehicles, commenced a conversation—of course, on the one inextinguishable theme. "Why," inquired the simpler of the two individuals, "do they merely put on the bulletins *Oui* or *Non*?" "Que tu est bête!" replied the other, an *esprit fort*; "Don't you know that *Oui* means—? Yes, I wish him to stay; the other—? No, I don't want him to go? C'est tout simple." Thoroughly satisfied as you or I, reader, would have been with so clear and satisfactory an exposition of the case, our Auvergnat took up the shafts of his water-cart, and resumed his route, reflecting admiringly, as you and I, reader, do every day, on the wisdom and intelligence of a Government which thus, by the most simple means, arranges all things to its use and profit.

We really must tell you some of the incidents of the voting, trying as much as possible to keep out King Charles I.

The whole of Sunday night was passed in examining the contents of the electoral urns, one of which enclosed the votes, the other the names of the voters; and from daylight circulars were sent round to electors, the absence of whose names indicated that they had not as yet exercised their right, requesting them not to delay the fulfilment of it. As they arrived at the Mairie, billets with *Oui* written or printed on them, were thrust into their hands to deposit in the urn.

Not even the artists, who for weeks before St. Valentine's Day seek inspiration of the muses for the invention of delicate and far-fetched devices for their tender missives, ever journeyed so effectually and satisfactorily to Helicon as have those of the Empire for the composing of the bulletins for the voting. Some are simply grand, the *Oui* (of course, *Non* existeth not for them) appearing arrayed in gold or purple, without other adornment—fit emblem of the grand and simple dignity of the cause they support. Others bear the charmed monosyllable, surmounted by the crown that is ere long to encircle the brow of Cæsar. Others display the bird of Jove, with extended wings. On this is a portrait of the modern Augustus, moustache and all; on that an angel points out the word *Oui*, inscribed on the sun, to a prisoner, who stretches forth to him his arms from the grating of his dungeon! Perhaps, however, the most brilliant effort of imagination among all these is a bulletin which, when open, displays the form of an eagle, with *ailes déployées*; when folded, that of the traditional cocked hat.

It appears decided that Court dresses are to be adopted for the *beau sexe* as well as for the *laid*. Although the fairer part of the creation are not to be called upon to appear with their waists close under their arms, three breadths in their skirts, and draperies altogether of the scantiest proportions—(Louis Napoleon knows he may imprison and transport political offenders, that he may crush journals and indulge in similar inspirations of his genius, but dictating to women, fashions that do not take their fancy at the time being, though, thirty years ago, they would not have listened to or tolerated any others—*Ah c'est autre chose!*)—it is yet anticipated that the *robe de cour* will incline to the fashion of that of the Empire, both as to its general aspect and to the abundant employment of gold and jewels in its decoration. It is said that a drawing of the proposed innovation has been made by especial order, and submitted to the approval of the future Emperor.

It is by many journals positively asserted that the *Wasa* marriage is to take place, and some even declare that the *fiançailles* are to be celebrated in the month of January.

The Théâtre Français is giving with great success a comedy of M. Mélesville, entitled "Sullivan." The plan of the piece is by no means new, having already, with trifling differences, appeared on the French stage under the name, if we mistake not, of "Garriek;" being founded on an anecdote, the authenticity of which we do not profess to give in opinion upon, related of that actor. We recollect seeing the original piece some years since played by the French company at our St. James's Theatre. Garriek, in the first play—*Sullivan* in the second and present one—by his acting, inspires a desperate passion in the breast of a young and beautiful girl, to the despair of her father, a wealthy merchant, who looks upon a great actor, tragedian or comedian, in precisely the same light that he regards the imps in a pantomime. Storms, scenes, tears ensue: papa rages or entreats; Miss, *tient bon*. In "Garriek" there is a *fiancé*, who is of course au *désespoir* with grief and jealousy; in "Sullivan" there is no incombustible. At last, in despair, a luminous idea strikes Papa. He contides the truth to the *mangeur de cœurs*, entreating him to disenchant Miss himself, and thus cure her of her blind partiality. The bargain is struck; Garriek-Sullivan appears at the house of the City papa, who has invited many of his friends to come and see the lion at feeding time. Garriek-Sullivan has seen Miss at the theatre, and has noted, with much satisfaction, her evident admiration of his talents; but it is only now that he learns her identity with the City merchant's daughter. He begins to repent of his promise, but a bargain is a bargain: *il s'exécute*: he imperceptibly intoxicates in all its most revolting phases, and of course the disenchantment is complete. Here the resemblance of the two pieces ceases. In "Garriek," matters remain here; the young lady casts from her bosom the broken idol, and consoles herself with her intended. In "Sullivan," she learns the trick that has been put upon her; the self-immolation of her hero, who has sacrificed his growing passion to a sense of honour; papa is mollified, and all ends happily.

At the Théâtre Lyrique, "Le Postillon de Longjumeau" and "Si J'étais Roi" have given place to the *reprise* of "La Pêrle de Brésil" of Félicien David—certainly one of the prettiest modern *opéras comiques* on any stage. The music, the *mise en scène*, the execution, are all admirable, and the success, of course, considerable.

"La Masse de Ste. Cécile," composed by M. Ambroise Thomas, was performed a few days since, at the church of St. Eustache, with extreme magnificence, by six hundred artists. All the principal churches in Paris celebrated the *fête* of the Saint with great pomp and splendour. At the Madeleine, Cherubini's "Masse du Sacre" was executed in an exquisite manner.

The works for the improvements in the Bois de Boulogne have commenced, under the inspection of M. Varé. They are to consist of a lake of some extent, a serpentine river, various clearings, plantations, gardens, and new walks; and the whole is to be crowned by the formation of a railroad to get there: no small improvement in itself, as we know few roads uglier, worse-kept, more sun-scorched in summer, more wind swept in winter, than the present avenues to the Bois de Boulogne.

The vote on the Imperial *plebiscite* has been what was expected. France has accepted the Empire. The result of the *scrutin* for the department of the Seine gives—*Oui*, 210,658; *Non*, 54,753. The army votes show 166,385 for, and 5779 against, with 1964 set down as doubtful. The navy, 22,630 for, to 1011 against, with 551 doubtful or null. It is calculated that in Paris the number of persons who "abstained" on the 10th December, 1848, amounted to one-fourth of the electors; in December, 1851, to one-fifth, and in the present instance, to one-seventh. Private accounts from several places in the departments state, that, whatever be the cause, the rural populations have actually voted *en masse* for the Empire, notwithstanding the obstacles occasioned by the inclemency of the weather, which has been general throughout France. In some towns not yet included in the official returns it is also stated that the affirmative votes have been less than in 1851. After Paris, one city presents a remarkable exception, and that is Strasbourg, where there have been on the present occasion only 2600 electors who have abstained from voting, instead of 5800. So far as has yet been seen, the number of affirmative votes appear less at Lille, Dijon, Orleans, Cambrai, and Tours. At Lille, those who abstained from voting are reckoned at more than 7000 out of 15,201. The opinion still is, that the majority for the Empire will be about

8,000,000, rather over than under. The Prefects and sub-Prefects have been enthusiastic in their appeals to the public. One official who declares that "the defeat of Waterloo has remained as a tear on the heart of France," exclaims: "Re-establish the Empire, and put an end to the mourning of thirty-seven years." Another declares that the establishment of the Empire is tantamount to tearing out the first page from the Treaties of 1815. Another functionary has had a ballot-box made expressly to be taken round to the hospitals, and to the residences of sick or aged persons, whom disease or the inclement weather prevented from going to the municipality to vote. To show his gratitude, Abd-el-Kader actually petitioned the Mayor of Amboise to be allowed to vote, and a special urn was provided for the reception of the Emir's vote, and that of his officers.

SPAIN.

A grand levee was held by the Queen and the Queen-Mother on the 19th, it being the fête day of the former. The attendance was very numerous. The *Heraldo* states that the statutes of the company for the canalisation of the Ebro have been approved of by the Royal Council. The governor of the province of Malaga has issued a decree prohibiting the carrying of the long knife called *navajas*, under pain of imprisonment. Letters which had reached Madrid from Manila, dated Sept. 15, represent that colony to be perfectly tranquil.

GREECE.

The *Morning Herald* announces, that at "Lord Malmesbury's own house," on Saturday, a convention was signed on behalf of England, France, Russia, Bavaria, and Greece. "The new treaty (says the *Herald*) declares that none but a Prince professing the Greek religion shall reign over the Greek people."

THE AUSTRALIAN GOLD FIELDS.

According to the latest accounts received from the Australian Gold Fields, the quantity of the precious metal discovered is becoming quite fabulous. The Victoria diggings in one month alone (August) yielded 246,000 ounces. One place, a "flat," between Adelaide Gully and Wattle-tree Flat, on the road leading from Forest Creek to Fryer's Creek, has obtained colonial celebrity by a party of four Adelaide men, who had gone there "prospepecting," turning up 150 lb. weight of pure gold in one morning between breakfast and dinner. Seven tons of gold were lying idle at Adelaide Gully for want of horses to take them to Melbourne, and more was fast accumulating. At New Bendigo Flat, Forest Creek, one "party" took 12 lb. weight from one hole, and four Germans gained 21 lb. of gold in one week. At Donkey Gully, in the upper part of Forest Creek, 100 ounces were taken out by a party in one week, and many others in that vicinity are digging the old deserted holes and doing "very well."

The papers contain a very interesting document, a price current of labour, published by a Mr. Fitchett, of the Victoria Registry Office. Of course the prices are *bona fide* ones, because Mr. Fitchett is prepared to engage servants at the amount he mentions. Married couples, as house servants for country hotels, &c., can have engagements at £65 to £70 per annum, with rations; shepherds, £38; hut-keepers, £30; bullock-drivers, £50, or by the week, £1 10s., and on the roads from £3 to £4; farm servants, £50 per annum, and £1 10s. by the week, &c.

THE NEW GAZZA LADRA.

(From the *Morning Chronicle*.)

The following is an illustration of Mr. Disraeli's "Ciceronian" habit of learning common-places and forgetting to specify that they are quotations. The words "it has been well observed" can apply to the first sentence only; and if they are intended as a loophole, that only shows the plagiarist to be thoroughly wilful. It may be well to state that "Lord Cadurcis" was expressly intended by the novelist as a pseudonym for Lord Byron:—

It has been well observed that no spectacle is so ridiculous as the British public, in one of its periodical fits of morality. In general, elopements, divorces, and family quarrels pass with little notice. We read the scandal, talk about it for a day, and forget it. But once in six or seven years our virtue becomes outrageous. We cannot suffer the laws of religion and decency to be violated. We must make a stand against vice. We must teach libertines that the English people appreciate the importance of domestic ties. Accordingly, some unfortunate man, in no respect more depraved than hundreds whose offences have been treated with lenity, is singled out as an expiatory sacrifice. If he has children, they are to be taken from him. If he has a profession, he is to be driven from it. He is cut by the higher orders, and hissed by the lower. He is, in truth, a sort of whipping-boy, by whose vicarious agonies all the other transgressors of the same class are, it is supposed, sufficiently chastised. We reflect very complacently on our own severity, and compare, with great pride, the high standard of morals established in England with the Parisian laxity. At length our anger is satisfied—our victim is ruined and heart-broken—and our virtue goes quietly to sleep for seven years more.

Thus it happened to Lord Cadurcis: he was the periodical victim, the scapegoat of English morality, sent into the wilderness with all the crimes and curses of the multitude on his head. Lord Cadurcis had certainly committed a great crime: not his intrigue with Lady Montague, for that surely was not an unprecedented offence; not his duel with her husband, for after all it was a duel in self-defence; and at all events, divorces and duels, under any circumstances, would scarcely have excited or authorised the storm which was now about to burst over the polluted child of society. But Lord Cadurcis had been guilty of the offence which, of all offences, is punished most severely—Lord Cadurcis had been over-praised. He had excited too warm an interest; and the public with its usual justice, was resolved to chastise him for his own folly.

The public, without waiting to think, or even to inquire after the truth, instinctively selected as genuine the most false and the most flagrant of the fifty libellous narratives that were circulated of the transaction. Stories, inconsistent with themselves, were all alike eagerly believed, and what evidence there might be for any one of them, the virtuous people, by whom they were repeated, neither cared nor knew. The public, in short, fell into a passion with their darling.—Mr. Disraeli's "Venetia," vol. ii., pages 352–355, published in 1837.

MR. DISRAELI AND M. THIERS.

The following has been addressed to the editor of the *Times*:—
Sir,—As the writer of the article of July 4, in the *Morning Chronicle*, from which Mr. Disraeli is charged with having taken a passage of his panegyric upon the Duke of Wellington, I think it but just to that gentleman to exonerate him entirely from this unfounded accusation.

It is more than ten years ago since Mr. Disraeli first mentioned to me this very striking eulogium of the military character, which he remembered having read fifteen years before, in a French review.

Having subsequently discovered that this article was by no less a personage than M. Thiers, I made use of the quotation in some comments on French military statesmen.

It is therefore fair to state that, instead of Mr. Disraeli being indebted to the *Morning Chronicle* for the passage in question, the *Morning Chronicle* was indebted to Mr. Disraeli.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,
68, Harley-street, Nov. 21. GEORGE SIDNEY SMYTH.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS RECENTLY DECEASED.

THE EARL OF SHREWSBURY.



JOHN TALBOT, 17th Earl of Shrewsbury, died on the 9th inst. at Naples, after a short illness. His Lordship had been sojourning on the Continent during the last two years. At the beginning of this month he was suddenly seized, while at Palermo, with an affection of the brain, caused by exposure to the intense heat of the place, and he was ordered by his medical attendants to remove to Rome. He had progressed as far as Naples, when a fatal attack of fever came on, and his Lordship soon after expired.

The Earl of Shrewsbury was the lineal male heir and representative of the renowned warrior Sir John Talbot, so distinguished in the French wars of Henry V. and VI., more especially as the opponent of the Maid of Orleans. To him were granted the Earldoms of Shrewsbury and Waterford, which descended to the nobleman whose death we record. The great Talbot was slain, in his 80th year, in a battle with the French before Chastillon. It is said that he was victorious in forty different engagements. The late Earl was born 18th March, 1791, the son of John Joseph Talbot, Esq., by Catherine, his first wife, daughter of Thomas Clifton, Esq., of Lytham, county Lancaster, and succeeded to the family honours at the decease of his uncle, in 1827. He inherited, at the same time, a very considerable property, and, subsequently, he commenced, under the guidance of Pugin, the erection of the magnificent structure of Alton Towers. From the moment of his accession to the Peerage, his Lordship took an active part in matters concerning the Roman Catholic party, of which he was a zealous adherent. About the year 1839 he wrote several political and religious pamphlets, chiefly addressed to Mr. Ambrose Lisle Phillips, a convert, and remarkable for their extreme Catholic tendency, and their censure of Mr. O'Connell.

On all occasions Lord Shrewsbury was a munificent supporter of his religion, and he is stated to have contributed no less a sum than £50,000 to the building of Roman Catholic edifices. A splendid church was erected at Cheddle at the Earl's sole expense; and the cathedral at Nottingham was largely assisted by his Lordship's generosity.

Lord Shrewsbury married, 27th June, 1814, Maria Theresa, eldest daughter of William Talbot, Esq., of Castle Talbot, county Wexford, and niece of Arthur first Earl of Mountnorris, by whom he had issue: one son John (who died in infancy), and two daughters, viz., Mary-Althea-Beatrix (raised to the rank of a Princess by the King of Bavaria), who married, 4th April, 1839, the Prince Doria Pamphili; and Gwendoline-Catherine, who married, 11th May, 1835, the Prince of Sulmona (eldest son of the Prince Borghese), and died in 1840.

Dying, thus, without male issue, his Lordship is succeeded in the Earldoms of Shrewsbury and Waterford by his cousin, Bertram-Arthur-Talbot, born 11 Dec. 1832, only son of the late Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Thomas Talbot, by Julia his wife, third daughter of Sir Henry Tichborne, Bart., which lady is now married to Captain Washington Hubbert, of Belton Grange, county Warwick.

SIR THOMAS JOSEPH DE TRAFFORD, BART., OF TRAFFORD PARK, CO. LANCASTER.



SIR THOMAS died at Trafford Park, on the 14th inst., aged 74. The old and knightly family which he represented, has been seated at Trafford from a period antecedent to the Norman Conquest. An ancient deed sets forth that Randolphus, the direct ancestor, "flourished at Trafford in the time of Canute the Dane, about the year 1030." The gentleman, whose death we record, was son and heir of the late John Trafford, Esq., of Trafford, by Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of Stephen Walter Tempest, Esq., of Broughton, county York. He served as High Sheriff of Lancashire, in 1834, received a Royal licence in 1841 to assume the prefix De to his surname, and was created a Baronet in the same year. Sir Thomas married, 17th August, 1803, Laura Anne, third daughter and co-heir of Francis Colman, Esq., of Hillersdon, Devon, and had issue, Sir Humphrey, present and second Baronet, born 1st May, 1808, four younger sons, and seven daughters.

LIEUT.-GENERAL SIR HENRY FREDERICK BOUVERIE, G.C.B., AND G.C.M.G., COLONEL OF THE 97TH FOOT.

This gallant officer died suddenly, at Woolbeding, on the 14th inst. He was born 11th July, 1783, the third son of the Hon. Edward Bouverie, brother of the first Earl of Radnor. He entered the army, as Ensign in the 2nd Foot, in 1799. In 1809 he served on the staff in Scotland, and subsequently filled the office of aide-de-camp and military secretary to the Duke of Wellington, while in Spain. In 1838 he obtained the rank of Lieutenant-General; and, at one period, was Governor of Malta. He received one Cross and one Clasp for his services as Assistant-Adjutant-General at Salamanca, Vittoria, St. Sebastian, Nive, and Orthez.

Sir H. F. Bouverie married, 8th July, 1826, Julia Fanny, daughter of the late Lewis Montolieu, Esq., and widow of Captain William Wilbraham, R.N., by whom (who died 23d June, 1836) he leaves one son, Henry Montolieu Bouverie, an officer in the Coldstream Guards; and one daughter, Henrietta, married, in 1851, to Hugh Montolieu Hammersley, Esq.

THE COUNTESS OF ELTON.

LOUISA, Countess of Elton, died on the 18th inst., after a short illness at Surrey Park, Surrey. Her Ladyship was born November 16th, 1807, the third daughter of Charles Dancombe, 1st Lord Faversham; and was married, October 1, 1831, to John Scott, Viscount Encombe, who subsequently became 2nd Earl of Elton at the decease of his grandfather, Lord Chancellor Eldon, in 1838. Of this marriage there is issue, one son, John Viscount Encombe, born November 8th, 1845, and six daughters.

PARLIAMENTARY PORTRAITS.

THE MARQUIS OF SALISBURY, K.G., LORD PRIVY SEAL.

If we reflect that the Marquis of Salisbury has, for very nearly thirty years, held a seat in the House of Peers, and that for some time before his elevation he sat in the House of Commons, we shall notice that, in a political point of view, his life has been comparatively inactive. Yet he always has been, and still is, a man of very decided political opinions, who never shrunk from avowing those opinions, even at a time when they involved no ordinary unpopularity. In point of fact, Lord Salisbury's life has been that of a country gentleman rather than that of a courtier or a politician; and he has seldom stepped into the arena as a political combatant, except on those great and exciting occasions when it is almost the duty of a man invested with the privilege of legislating to declare his conscientious opinions.

The family of Lord Salisbury is descended from Robert Cecil, the youngest son of the celebrated Lord Burghley, by the daughter of Sir Anthony Cooke. Robert Cecil was raised to the peerage by James I., in 1603, as Baron Cecil; and in 1605 he was created Earl of Salisbury, having intermediate y received the title of Viscount Cranbourne. The family were not in any way remarkable for the talent which distinguished their ancestor, nor did they take any very active part in public affairs; but in the year 1639 an incident occurred to the then holder of the title, which forcibly illustrates the state of opinion in "free" England at that date. James, the fourth Earl of Salisbury, had embraced the Roman Catholic faith. The House of Commons, at that time under the influence of a violent access of the anti-Popish frenzy, made this conversion, and that of the Earl of Peterborough, the subject of debate. A resolution was adopted that they should be impeached for high treason, "for having departed from their allegiance, and become reconciled to the Church of Rome!" The threatened prosecution, however, was soon afterwards abandoned.

The present Marquis succeeded to the title on the death of his father, the first Marquis (created 18th August, 1789), on the 13th of June, 1823. He had previously sat for some years in the House of Commons as Viscount Cranbourne. He has always professed himself a Tory of the school of the younger Pitt.

In June, 1823, he succeeded to the Marquisate, and in due time took his seat in the House of Peers. We do not find him actively engaged until June, 1824, when he resumed his early pursuits so far as to oppose, and successfully, Earl Grosvenor's bill to legalise the sale of game. It is observable that four years later Lord Salisbury himself proposed successfully a bill to effect the same object as that which he had before

opposed. In 1825 he was very active again on the "Spring Guns Bill;" indeed, but for an occasional brush with the Whig Peers on the Corn Laws, Lord Salisbury's senatorial honours would almost be confined to his success on such congenial topics.

In 1826 Lord King had made one of his dashing assaults on the Corn Laws. Lord Salisbury was in arms at once. He taunted the noble Lord with not having brought forward some specific measure, a course from which Lord King had sagaciously abstained, from a conviction of the hopelessness of appealing to a jury so constituted. The noble Lord, he said, had used all the arguments calculated to irritate the manufacturers, and to persuade them and the people that they were sufferers by the exclusive privileges of the landed interest. If the noble Lord would give him an opportunity, he would prove that the manufacturing interest depended for its prosperity on that of the agricultural interest. In the May following Lord Salisbury also delivered a very strong speech against any change in the then existing Corn Laws. It is almost unnecessary to state that the noble Marquis was not one of the admirers of the Reform Bill, or that the Whig Ministry of 1830 received from him at all times an uncompromising opposition. On the other hand he gave his cordial support to the brief Conservative Administration of 1834-5, when Sir Robert Peel made so gallant a stand on behalf of the Tory party, whose fallen position was mainly owing to the internal dissensions caused by his own Liberal measure in 1829.

We have slightly interfered with the order of dates in referring to Lord Salisbury's opposition to the Reform Bill. Reverting to the year 1829, we find that the noble Marquis was among those who admitted, though with reluctance, the necessity for some legislation on behalf of the Catholics. The strong arguments supplied by Mr. O'Connell's Catholic Association, and his election for Clare, had their effect even on Lord Salisbury; so much so that he consented to move the Address on the opening of the session of 1829. As he was known to belong to the ultra or High Tory section of the Ministerial party, this selection was tantamount to an advertisement that the ultras had been won over by Wellington and Peel. Lord Salisbury's speech on this occasion was the best he ever delivered; as though the good genius of Christian tolerance and liberality watched over him on the occasion. The speech was extremely temperate, and the noble orator earnestly deprecated angry discussions on the subject at issue. He treated it in its political aspect, and refused to mix up the religious feelings of the House with those considerations which ought to have weight with legislators as statesmen. At the same time his support to the Government measure would only be conditional, on his finding that due guarantees were provided for the safety of the Protestant religion and the Established Church.

When the bill of Mr. Peel came before the public, the tone of the noble Marquis suddenly changed. On the 2d of April he spoke strongly against it. He had given his general assent to the new policy, he said, on the understanding that securities were to be taken for the Protestant religion. No such securities were afforded by this bill. Mr. Pitt, whom he followed in all things, would, if he were alive, have taken better securities. To pass the measure would be to sign the death-warrant of the Established Church in Ireland. It provided no guarantees or securities. He had always advocated the payment of the Roman Catholic clergy by the State as the only safe guarantee; and he still held to that opinion. It was with the greatest pain, more especially as he had so lately moved the Address, that he thus showed his want of confidence in Wellington and Peel; but he felt compelled to take the course he did and to give expression to his sentiments. The noble Marquis voted against the second and third readings of the bill. At the next great crisis in the history of his party, Lord Salisbury took a course not very dissimilar. From 1830 to 1834 he had supported Sir Robert Peel in his arduous campaign, and in 1834-5 he gave that statesman his full confidence and support as First Minister of the Crown. Again, from 1835 to 1841 Lord Salisbury's name always swelled the division list of the House of Lords when any anti-Whig demonstration was made. When, at the close of 1841, Sir Robert Peel once more took office, Lord Salisbury renewed his allegiance. To the moderate commercial reforms of 1842 he gave his express assent, apparently not perceiving, as in 1829 on the Relief Bill, the conclusions to which they led. When, however, in 1846, the grand blow came to the supremacy of the landed interest, Lord Salisbury broke away from his chief, speaking and voting steadily against Corn-law repeal. It is not surprising, therefore, that, on the accession of the Earl of Derby to office, Lord Salisbury should have brought his territorial influence to the aid of his associates. He was named a member of the Cabinet, with the office of Lord Privy Seal, which had been resigned by the Earl of Minto when the Whigs quitted office.

James Brownlow William Gascoyne Cecil, second Marquis of Salisbury (K.G., LL.D., and F.R.S.), was born on the 17th April, 1791. He married, on the 2d Feb. 1821, Frances Mary, daughter of Bamber Gascoyne, Esq., when he took the name of Gascoyne as a prefix to his own family name. The first Lady Salisbury died on the 15th October, 1839. The Dowager Marchioness had met with a melancholy fate in Nov., 1835, having been burnt to death in the west wing of Hatfield House when it was destroyed by fire. Lord Salisbury had issue by his first marriage the present Lord Cranbourne (born 29th Oct., 1821) and two other sons; also two daughters, one married to Mr. J. B. Hope, M.P., the other to Mr. J. M. Balfour, M.P.

The Marquis of Salisbury married, on the 29th April, 1847, Lady Mary Catherine, second daughter of Earl Delawarr, by whom he has one son and one daughter.

Lord Salisbury is Lord Lieutenant of the county of Middlesex, High Steward of Hertford, Major of the South Herts Yeomanry Cavalry, and Colonel of the Herts Militia. One of his Lordship's sisters is married to Lord Cowley, the other to the Marquis of Westmeath. The principal family seats are Hatfield House, Herts (where the noble Marquis received the honour of a visit from her Majesty), and Childwell Hall, Lancashire.

THE RIGHT HON. SIR JOHN TROLLOPE, BART, M.P., PRESIDENT OF THE POOR-LAW BOARD.

Of the past political life of Sir John Trollope we have not much to record; his present position, however, as Chief Poor-law Commissioner, renders it desirable that we should know what has been his former career, and what is the prospect of his probable conduct, in the event of her Majesty's Ministers fulfilling the expectations entertained by some sanguine persons of their future measures.

Sir John Trollope comes from an old Lincolnshire family. He is the son of the sixth Baronet, by the daughter of Henry Thord, Esq., of Coxwold, Lincolnshire. Sir John was born at Casewick, in Lincolnshire, in the year 1800. On the 26th of October, 1847, he married Julia Maria, the eldest daughter of Sir Robert Sheffield, Bart.

So far back as the year 1825 Sir John Trollope was a man of note in his county. In that year he served as High Sheriff; and he was early looked to as one who might some day find favour with the Lincolnshire farmers, should any cause lead them to change their representatives.

It was not until the general election of 1841 that the right hon. Baronet was returned to Parliament as member for the southern division of Lincolnshire. To the new commercial policy of Sir Robert Peel—that now distinguished as "the policy of 1842"—he gave a general support, though not without some small exceptions more immediately affecting agriculture; but he continued for four years a silent member of the House. In June, 1844, he stood up as the defender of the Protection or Pro-Corn-Law Associations, which, it will be remembered, were established by the agricultural and shipping interest to oppose the growing influence of the Anti-Corn-Law League. His speech was not without ability. Its chief feature was that he maintained the landlords would be the last to suffer from the repeal of the Corn Laws, and that the farm labourers would quit the rural districts for the towns, where they would become chargeable on the poor-rates.

When, in 1846, Sir Robert Peel brought forward the bill for the repeal of the Corn Laws, Sir John Trollope did not for an instant hesitate as to the line he should take. He had been elected as a Protectionist, and a Protectionist he remained. He was one of the first to follow the standard of the late Lord George Bentinck and the present Chancellor of the Exchequer, and he was able regular in his attendance and in his votes. In one of his speeches at this period, he maintained that the Protectionists did not wish to make food scarce and dear; they desired to see it abundant and cheap, but preferred that it should be the growth of English rather than of foreign soils. He predicted that after the repeal there would still be great fluctuations in the price of corn. Against the second reading of the Repeal Bill Sir John Trollope made a good, strong, practical speech, embodying the farmers' views of the question.

Throughout the debates on that measure he stuck to his creed and party; and no cheers were more loud in delight at Mr. Disraeli's sarcasms on Sir Robert Peel, than those of the weighty representative of South Lincolnshire. When, on the 26th of June, the moment for revenge came—when the Corn Bill had passed the Lords, and Sir R. Peel, by moving on the Irish Coercion Bill, tempted the defeat which party



THE MOST NOBLE THE MARQUIS OF SALISBURY, K.G., LORD PRIVY SEAL.
FROM AN ORIGINAL PAINTING AT HATFIELD.



THE RIGHT HON. SIR JOHN TROLLOPE, BART., M.P., PRESIDENT OF THE POOR-LAW BOARD.
FROM AN ORIGINAL DRAWING.

justice, if not political equity, demanded—Sir John Trollope was there to cast his stone, and help in the downfall of the Minister who had saved his order from disgrace and danger, but who was by them known only as “the traitor.”

In the succeeding years Sir J. Trollope followed, first, Lord George Bentinck, then, Mr. Disraeli. In 1850, the Whigs having recognised in the Queen's Speech the existence of agricultural distress, Sir J. Trollope was selected to move an amendment to the Address, declaring that the now admitted distress arose from Free Trade, and was aggravated by local taxation. Mr. Disraeli then moved his committee on agricultural distress, when, on a division, there appeared a majority of only 21 for Ministers, and Mr. Disraeli was emboldened to go further next year in letting down his party from the high and dry regions of Protection into the healthier atmosphere of “adjustment of taxation.” In 1850 Sir J. Trollope voted again for Mr. Disraeli's metamorphosis of “Protection,” when he ran the Whigs down to a majority of 14. In 1851 he supported Lord J. Russell in the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill; and on the subsequent change of Ministry, Sir John was appointed Chief Poor-Law Commissioner, in the room of Mr. Baines.

It is due to Sir John Trollope to say that he has always been a consistent believer in the efficacy of Protection; and that, although he is too good a subordinate to defy his chieftains, his election speeches of late have been of a character to presage some difficulty for Mr. Disraeli and Lord Derby in keeping the Ministerial team in order. Sir John Trollope is a Deputy-Lieutenant of the county of Lincoln. Of respectable abilities and conciliatory character, with sound practical knowledge as a farmer, he may perhaps manage the Poor Law department in a more homogeneous spirit than can be expected from men who do not come in contact with the workings of the system in the rural districts, and are too apt to judge by abstract rules and theories. At the same time, it is as a representative of agricultural interests that Sir John Trollope has his place in the

House, and upon those subjects alone has he ever displayed any mental activity.

The worthy Baronet has a sister, married to Mr. Wykeham Martin; and two of his near relatives attained distinction in the Navy:—Admiral Sir Henry Trollope, K.C.B., who died in 1839; and Rear-Admiral George Barne Trollope, C.B., who died in May, 1850.

ROYAL MAIL PACKET “LA PLATA.”

This noble vessel, the last new ship of the Royal Mail Steam-Packet Company, arrived in Southampton Water on the 18th instant, from the West Indies, under melancholy circumstances; seven of her crew having died on the passage from yellow fever, including her commander, Captain Allan, a gentleman universally esteemed for his high integrity and his talents as a seaman.

La Plata was built in the Clyde for the Messrs. Cunard, the contractors of the British American Mail. Finding their last new vessels, the *Asia* and *Africa*, unable to cope in speed with those of the Collins' line (though the difference only amounted to a few hours), the Messrs. Cunard ordered two ships to be built of such power as should enable them to outrun their rivals. For this purpose the *Arabia* and *Persia* were planned and built; but on the loss by fire of the *Amazon*, of the Royal Mail-Packet Company, arrangements were entered into by them with the Messrs. Cunard, and the former vessel was sold to the Royal Mail Packet Company, and took her place among their fleet, fresh named *La Plata*, at a cost of £125,000.

The performances of this vessel have exceeded the most sanguine expectations. On her passage from the Clyde to Southampton, she ran from Greenock to the Bell Buoy, at the mouth of the Mersey (a distance of 201 miles), in fourteen hours, at a speed of 14.28 knots, or fully fifteen miles an hour; and from Liverpool to Southampton, 461 miles, including

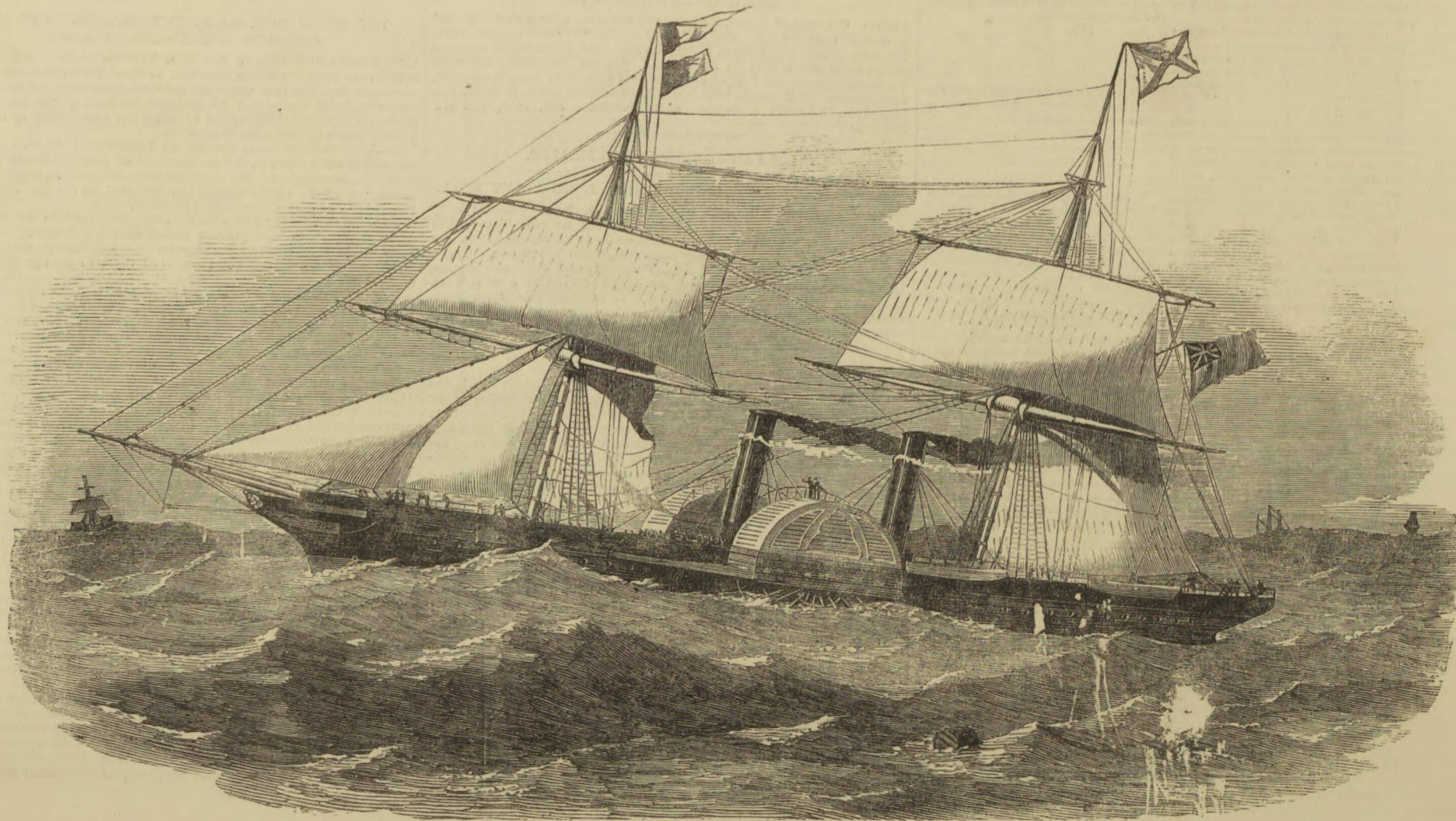
stoppages to receive and discharge pilots, in thirty-six hours, at an average speed of fourteen miles an hour. She made her last voyage out to St. Thomas in 12½ days, and returned from that place, in spite of bad weather the greater part of the passage, in 13 days; and has been pronounced, by the most competent authorities, to be the fastest ocean steam-ship in the world.

The plan of cabin arrangements is totally different from that of the other ships of this company; instead of their spar-decks, she has a deck round-house, extending the whole length of the ship. Her dimensions and power are as follow:—

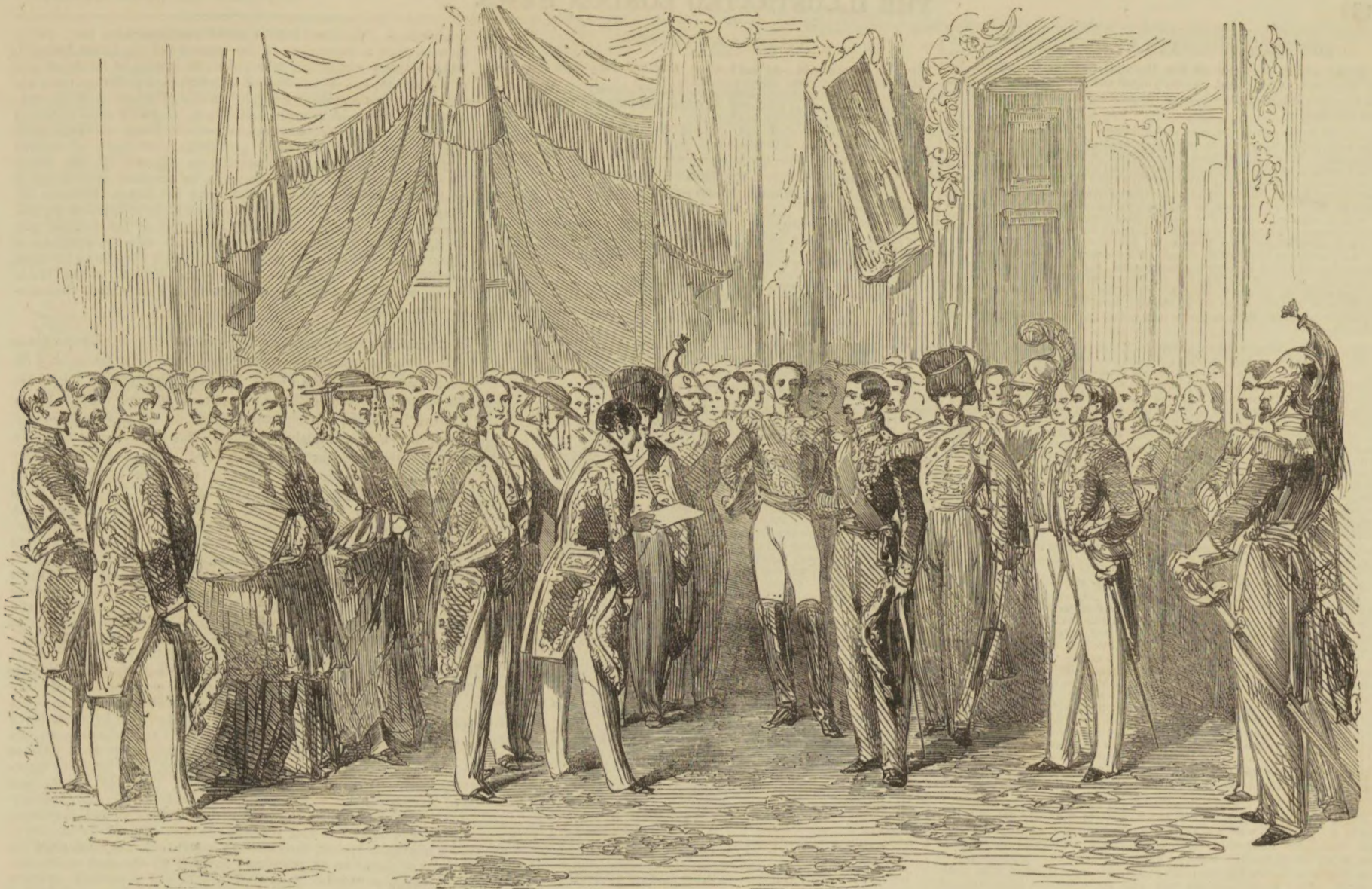
Burthen in tons	2292.42.94
Length between perpendiculars	285 feet
Breadth of beam	41 ft. 6 in.
Depth of hold	27 ft. 8 in.
Horse power	940
Diameter of cylinder	103 inches
Diameter of paddles	36 ft. 10 in.
Stroke	9 feet
Average speed	14½ miles per hour.

At Southampton, *La Plata* was boarded and inspected by the Health Officer of the port; who withheld pratique, and refused to allow the landing of the mails. A report was handed to him of the health of the persons on board; from which it appears, that besides the nine who have died, there were “twenty-one invalids ill during the voyage, including the doctor;” and that they had no disinfecting fluid but chloride of lime.

The collector of Customs then determined to permit *La Plata* to remain at anchor in the river, but debarred from any communication whatever with the shore, till a report of the circumstances of the case had been forwarded to the Commissioners of Customs; in the meantime, the collector consented to the mails being placed in a boat, in charge of Lieutenant Gardner, the Admiralty agent of the ship, and towed down to the lazaretto at the Motherbank, there to be fumigated



THE ROYAL MAIL STEAM-SHIP “LA PLATA.”



THE FRENCH SENATE AT ST. CLOUD.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

and returned to Southampton for transmission to the General Post-office.

On Saturday morning, Sir William Pym, the Superintendent-General of Quarantine, arrived from London, and having inspected the crew and convalescents of the vessel, and finding that the latter were progressing most favourably, and having ascertained that there had not been any fresh cases of yellow fever for the last seven days, released *La Plata* from quarantine.

Permission was accorded to enter the docks and discharge her cargo, &c.; but the quarantine officers deemed it prudent previously to give orders that she should take a trip of about eight miles down the river to bury the dead on board, in preference to landing their remains at Southampton. Accordingly, about noon, *La Plata* hauled down the quarantine flag, got under way, and steamed into the open water, where the ceremony of committing to the deep the bodies of the unfortunate men who had died was performed with due solemnity; the funeral duties being impressively performed by the Bishop of Sydney. After this *La Plata* headed towards Southampton, and entered the docks about four o'clock, the passengers' baggage being immediately landed and cleared by the customs and dock authorities.

PARIS FASHIONS FOR DECEMBER.

THE new winter toilettes are distinguished by the magnificence and costliness of their materials; even the simplest dresses for morning dress being of exorbitant price. These include taffetas of extreme thickness, and of all shades; the flounces are edged with satin stripes, and festooned; and at their extremities is a pretty fringe woven in the stuff. But the stuff, *par excellence*, is the *brocautelle*; this does not bear flounces; it is manufactured in the richest style: the pattern is almost in relief, very thick at the bottom, growing thinner as it ascends to the waist. It is made of various shades: for morning, the pattern is black, on a cabbage-green ground, or Naples blue; violet is, however, the shade most in vogue, and best harmonises with black. For evening, the pattern is white, upon a light ground, as China rose, or light blue, and mals. These are truly magnificent. There are also for evening, plaid borders of velvet, woven with a white ground: these are charming for young people. A fashion of the Empire, when tortoise-shell was not so common as at present, has been revived. Thus, metal combs are worn, ornamented with pearls, enamel, &c. The

BONNETS.—No. 1. White satin bonnet: crown black, the top trimmed with white satin ribbon, put on lozenge-shaped, and each trimmed with small blond lace of the same width. On the edge of the front is a small ribbon, laid flat, on a frill gathered in the middle, made with ribbon, the end trimmed with blond to match; inside are two large bunches of white pinks, or rose pinks.

No. 2. Green velvet bonnet: crown trimmed with guimpure or embroidery; the top is trimmed with three rows of ribbon to match, gathered at one end, the edge of the front trimmed with a frill of ribbon indented, and the curtain trimmed to match.

No. 3. Plain velvet bonnet, for morning dress and mid-winter.—Garnet green, and violet, are worn, trimmed with two slopes laid on flat; flowers of velvet, with the centre of a lively colour; the inside trimmed with velvet flowers to match, but mingled with blonde and net.

No. 4. Visiting, or theatre bonnets of white satin, entirely covered with four rows of lace, and a feather rolled up on each side.

CAPS.—1. Indoor cap of pink taffeta, trimmed with black lace and a large bunch of small lace net.

2. Evening party cap: crown of flat lace, and lined with five pinks, half hidden by a lace lappet; the two others are in the underneath lace; whence hang little velvet ribbons in bunches, or floating ends.

Fichu for open dresses; tambour embroidered patterns, with a small edge of Valenciennes, very low.



PARIS FASHIONS FOR DECEMBER.

hair is generally dressed falling very low on the neck behind; and from it hang long ribbons, either singly or in long flat bunches, falling on the neck and shoulders, and sometimes even to the waist. The revival of short waists is still apprehended; but the only approach we have seen is in bodies round in front, instead of pointed, with a silk belt of watered ribbon tied in front, with long falling ends: so long as fashion does not exceed this, nothing can be said against it.

A charming little garment, of which we have already spoken, is now in high fashion; this is a Turkish jacket, large and quite straight behind, and with sleeves open at the elbow; it is worn at home, over a rich toilet, on receiving the first-comers to ball or party. This jacket is mostly made of red or white cashmere, trimmed with gold or silver ribbon, and a little fringe to match. For older persons black cashmere

is worn, with black braid and gold pattern. The Talma mantelets still continue fashionable; but there is some talk of a partial return to cloaks, with sleeves very wide at the ends. They are trimmed either with ribbons, fringe, or lace on the arms, and at the bottom of the garment; black velvet is most becoming. The mildness of the season has not allowed opportunities for fur trimming.

THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

Talma mantelet of velvet or cloth, trimmed with a wide watered ribbon; a small collar giving a finish to the mantelet, and fitting quite close to the neck. The collar of the fichu should be turned over it. Albanian dress, with pattern; the ground is of *reps*, and the stripes of velvet are woven in the stuff.



PARIS FASHIONS FOR DECEMBER.



PARIS FASHIONS FOR DECEMBER.

THE FRENCH SENATE AT ST. CLOUD.

The grand official reception of the Imperial Senatus Consultum by Louis Napoleon, at St. Cloud (pictured upon the preceding page), took place after the sitting of the 7th inst; the account of which is thus given in the *Moniteur*—

The Senate met at mid-day, under the presidency of the first Vice-President, M. Menard; and in presence of the commissaries of the Government it deliberated on each of the articles of the Senatus Consultum. These articles were successively adopted, and the ballot having been opened upon the *ensemble*, the Senatus Consultum was adopted by 86 votes out of 87 who voted. Those absent were General Harispe, Admiral Ronassin, and the Comte Lezay-Marnesia, on account of their health. The Prince de la Moskowa was absent on military service, which retains him in Algeria. The Senatus Consultum was signed by all the members present. Immediately after the sitting, all the senators, in grand costume, and their Eminences the Cardinals in red robes, preceded by an escort, went in a body to the Palace of St. Cloud. They met in the Great Gallery. In a few seconds the Prince President entered the hall, surrounded by his Ministers and by the Commissioners appointed by the Council of State, and accompanied by the officers of his military household. At his entry, the Prince was saluted with cries of "Vive l'Empereur." M. Menard, first Vice-President of the Senate, on presenting the Senatus Consultum to the Prince President, addressed him as follows:—

"Messieurs,—When a great country like France makes its voice heard, the first duty of the political body to which she addresses herself is to listen and to reply. Such were the ideas of your Highness in calling for the meditations of the Senate on this vast movement of public opinion, which has manifested itself with so much *ensemble* and energy. The Senate has understood that this striking manifestation is justified at the same time by the immense services which you have rendered, by the name which you bear, and by the guarantees which are given to the future by the greatness of your character, and the wisdom and firmness of your mind. It has understood that, after so many revolutions, France feels the want of putting her destinies under the shelter of a powerful and national Government, which, holding to the past by the souvenirs of her glory and the legitimacy of her origin, now again finds in popular sanction the elements of its force and of its duration. The Senate glories, Monseigneur, in being the faithful interpreters of the wishes and sentiments of the country, in placing in your hands the Senatus Consultum which calls you to the Empire."

Loud cries of "Vive l'Empereur!" followed the conclusion of the speech.

The Prince replied:—

"Messieurs les Sénateurs.—I thank the Senate for the readiness with which it has responded to the wishes of the country, in deliberating on the re-establishment of the Empire, and in drawing up the Senatus Consultum which is to be submitted to the acceptance of the people. When, forty-eight years since, in this same palace, in this same room, and under analogous circumstances, the Senate came to offer the Crown to the chief of my family, the Emperor replied by these memorable words:—'My spirit will no longer be with my posterity from the day when it shall cease to merit the love and the confidence of this great nation. What now most affects my heart is the thought that the spirit of the Emperor is with me, that his ideas guide me, that his shade protects me, since by a solemn proceeding you come, in the name of the French people, to prove to me that I have merited the confidence of the country. It is not necessary for me to tell you that my constant pre-occupation will be to labour with you to promote the grandeur and prosperity of France.'"

Renewed cries of "Vive l'Empereur!" here burst forth. The Prince afterwards approached the senators, and entered into conversation with each of them; after which they left, and returned to the Luxembourg.

The single senator who has had the courage to vote against the Empire is M. Viellard, who was tutor to Louis Napoleon in his youth, and who, during the Monarchy, was a Liberal; and, under the Republic, a sincere but moderate Republican. He has always been opposed to the establishment of the Empire; but there are some people who doubt whether, upon this occasion, his vote was not a matter of calculation. It is rumoured that Louis Napoleon was himself anxious that there should be one vote at least against the Senatus Consultum, in order to give the Senate the appearance of independence; and it is also said that, with a similar object, care will be taken that there shall be 100,000 "Non" against the *plébiscite*.

THE COURT.

WINDSOR CASTLE.

The Queen and the Prince Consort have been dispensing a regal hospitality since their return to Windsor Castle. On Monday, her Majesty gave a grand dinner to the distinguished foreign officers deputized by their respective Governments to attend the funeral of the late Duke of Wellington.

On Tuesday, the Queen drove out, accompanied by the Princess Adelaide of Hohenlohe, to Cumberland Lodge, and inquired after the health of Lieutenant-General Wemyss.

On Wednesday, his Royal Highness Prince Albert, accompanied by the Duc de Brabant and the Comte de Flandres, went out shooting, attended by Earl Talbot, Colonel the Hon. Charles Grey, and Lieut.-Col. the Hon. A. Gordon.

On Thursday the Queen and the Prince walked in the Home Park. Her Majesty will hold a Privy Council to-day (Saturday) at Windsor Castle.

The Duchess of Atholl, the Earl and Countess of Derby, Viscount Hardinge, Lord Cowley, his Excellency the Belgian Minister and Madame Van de Weyer, the Duke of Northumberland, Viscount and Viscountess Mandeville, and Lord and Lady Wriothersley Russell, have been among the guests of her Majesty at the Castle during the week.

Their Serene Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Hohenlohe-Langenburg, Prince Hermann, and Princess Feodora of Hohenlohe have left England on their return to the Continent.

The Marchioness of Ely has succeeded the Viscountess Canning in the duties of Lady-in-Waiting to the Queen. The Earl of Verulam and Lieut.-General Sir Edward Bowater have been relieved by Earl Talbot and Mr. R. Ormsby Gore, as Lord and Groom in Waiting.

On Saturday last Mr. Joseph Nash's drawings of the "Lying in State of the late Duke of Wellington," and of the "Funeral Ceremony in St. Paul's Cathedral," were submitted to her Majesty and the Prince Consort, who were graciously pleased to express their approbation of them.

On Tuesday Mr. Adams had the honour of submitting his bust of the late Duke of Wellington.

FASHIONABLE RE-UNIONS.

Viscount and Viscountess Palmerston gave a grand dinner, on Monday evening, at their mansion in Carlton-gardens, to a distinguished circle invited to meet the Duke and Duchess de Terceira. The Duke having been commanded by her Majesty to Windsor Castle, the Duchess was alone present, attended by his Excellency the Portuguese Minister and the Countess de Lavradio. Among the guests at the banquet were his Excellency the French Ambassador and the Countess Walewska, his Excellency the Spanish Minister, his Excellency the Sardinian Minister, the Duchess of Inverness, the Marchioness of Ailesbury, the Earl of Westmoreland, the Countess of Shaftesbury, the Countess of Tankerville, Lord Howard de Walden, Count Bentevoglio d'Aragon, Hon. Spencer Cowper, and Mr. Monckton Milnes, M.P. After the banquet the noble Viscountess had a brilliant assembly.

His Excellency the Belgian Minister and Madame Van de Weyer gave a grand banquet on Tuesday evening, at the residence of the Legation, in Portland-place. The guests included the Duke and Duchess de Terceira, his Excellency the French Ambassador and the Countess Walewska, his Excellency the Sardinian Minister, his Excellency the Minister for the Netherlands, his Excellency the Portuguese Minister and the Countess de Lavradio, the Duchess of Somerset, the Earl of Malmesbury, the Earl and Countess of Jersey and Lady Clementina Villiers, Viscount and Viscountess Hardinge, and M. Delafosse. After the banquet, Madame Van de Weyer received a select circle of the nobility.

The Earl of Malmesbury, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, gave a grand dinner, on Saturday evening, at the Foreign Office, Downing-street, to the distinguished officers sent by the respective Governments of Spain, Portugal, Russia, Prussia, the Netherlands, Hanover, and Brunswick, to represent them at the funeral of the Duke of Wellington. Viscount Hardinge, as General Commanding-in-Chief, gave a grand dinner, on Tuesday, to the same distinguished party.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

The Bishop of Moray and Ross has declined to allow himself to be put in nomination for the vacant diocese of St. Andrews.

ANNUAL CONFESION.—A numerous and most respectable meeting was held at the Amphitheatre, in Liverpool, this week, for the purpose of protesting against the practice of annual confession recently introduced into the Church, in the diocese of Exeter and elsewhere.

APPOINTMENTS AND PREFERENCE.—The following preferments and appointments have recently been made:—*Sub-Dormery*: The Hon. and Rev. William Lawley, M.A., to the Cathedral Church of York. *Rectories*: The Rev. Washington S. Riley, M.A., to Thurgarton, near Cromer; the Rev. J. Walker, M.A., to Ashdon, Essex; the Hon. and Rev. Archibald Grant, M.A., to Knapton, near Grantham, Leicestershire; the Rev. David Winstanley, M.A., to All Saints, Wainfleet, near Boston; the Rev. John Gwynne, M.A., to Carnarvonshire. *Vicarage*: The Rev. G. Peake, B.A., to Birmingham; the Rev. William Wright, M.A., to St. Peter's, Worcester.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, November 28.—Advent Sunday. Goldsmith born, 1713.
MONDAY, 29.—Sir Philip Sidney born, 1554.
TUESDAY, 30.—St. Andrew. Duke of Gloucester died, 1834.
WEDNESDAY, December 1.—Leo X. died, 1521. Alexander of Russia died, 1825.
THURSDAY, 2.—Napoleon crowned, 1804.
FRIDAY, 3.—Flaxman died, 1826. Balzoni died, 1823.
SATURDAY, 4.—Cardinal Richelieu died, 1642.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 4, 1852.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
M 50 h 5 m 5	M 49 h 5 m 5	M 48 h 5 m 5	M 47 h 5 m 5	M 46 h 5 m 5	M 45 h 5 m 5	M 44 h 5 m 5

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FOR 1853.

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London: Published by WILLIAM LITTLE, 198, Strand.

* Country orders supplied for cash only.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

CAROLUS—Arms of Bulmer: "Gu. tinctée or, a lion rampant of the last.

Crest: A bull passant gu. armed and unguled, or.

EDWIN—Arms of Neville of Montacute: "Gu. a saltire arg."

AN INDIAN SUBSIDIARY—Total number of British troops, consisting of cavalry, infantry, artillery, &c., and West India and Colonial corps, and excluding the East India Company's troops, 129,211 men.

A POULTERER—The Poulterers' Company of London bear for Arms: "Arg. on a chevron, between three storks as many swans ppr. *Crest*: On a mural coronet, a stork with wings expanded ppr. *Supporters*: Two pelicans or, with wings indorsed, holding their breasts ppr." Refer to Stow's "History of London."

J K L—Which family of Lawrence does our correspondent refer to?

FANNY—Arms of Beaconsall of Lancashire: "Sa. a cross formée arg., in the sinister quarter an escallop or."

CHRISTABELLA—We know of no work giving the names of the English and Scotch settlers in Ireland between the years 1640 and 1700. For particulars of Walker, the heroic defender of Derry, refer to Harris and to Graham's "Memorials of the Siege."

A LADY—The old Scotch title of Lovat is not extinct, but dormant. The present presumed heir and claimant is Thomas Alexander Fraser, Baron of Lovat, in the Peerage of Great Britain.

QUINQUAGESIMA—Each day, before the House of Commons proceeds to business, prayers are said by the Speaker's Chaplain.

J G—Parker's "Glossary of Heraldry."

J W P—The inheritor of the estate must petition the Crown for a sign-manual to change his name. The expenses will be little short of £105.

EVANGELINE—The text admits of no misconstruction; the pronoun "him," of course, refers to the Chief Monner.

BEELIOZ—A biography of this distinguished composer has been published in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

J W C—The picture of the late Countess of Mornington, mother of the great Duke of Wellington, surrounded by busts and medallions of her distinguished sons, painted by the present Countess of Westmoreland (when Lady Burghersh), was engraved in mezzotint, by T. Hodgkiss, and was published in 1839 by Welsh and Gwynne. In the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of September 25 we gave an Engraving of the figure of the Countess, copied from this picture.

Friday Morning, Nov. 26.

Our Readers and Subscribers may form some idea of the great inconveniences which the Trade have experienced in the last week's issue of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, when we explain to them that we are now obliged to take off the Forms from the Printing Machines, in order to print our Journal of the present week; although many thousands of our last week's Number are yet unsupplied—every arrangement, however, being made to eventually supply all demands. Regular Subscribers are served in preference to casual purchasers.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1852.

Now that the solemn State Funeral of the Duke of Wellington has become a thing of the past, and that public homage to departed greatness and virtue has been rendered after the form the most obvious, if not the most appropriate—we, in common with our contemporaries—and in common, also, with the highest personages in the realm—with the Administrative and Executive authorities, and with the general feeling of society—may be permitted to record our admiration of the great people, who lent to that ceremony its greatest beauty and significance. So vast, so orderly, so respectful a multitude of men were, perhaps, never gathered together in this country. One particular feature of the proceedings on the memorable 18th of November, is too remarkable to be passed by without special notice. On that day there were no conflicts of individuals with the police—no robberies in the crowd—no attempts at robbery in those remote and unguarded districts of the metropolis which were left without an adequate force of constables for their protection, during the absence of the majority of that estimable body of men on the long line of procession. On all ordinary occasions, when shows and spectacles are offered to the teeming inhabitants of this city—whether at the Lord Mayor's annual exhibition of barbaric and mediæval foolery—or at the more striking displays consequent upon a Royal progress, or a coronation—the crowds that assemble but too commonly include large numbers of professional thieves, who resort to the show for no other purpose than to turn it to thievish account. Not so on the occasion of the funeral of the hero of Waterloo. That this particular class of men were present we cannot doubt; but that they, during this one ceremony, mingled with the public as part of the public, and abstained from doing dishonour to the day by the exercise of their vocation, is a fact which remains equally clear, by the strongest negative testimony. No such cases came before the police magistrates, and no complaints, as far as we have been able to ascertain, have been made of loss sustained by robberies, either among the crowds or in the unguarded houses of the metropolis. The fact is remarkable, and we leave it without further comment.

Among all the gorgeous and ceremonial attendants on the funeral, nothing has more forcibly struck the public than the simultaneous tolling of the bells of all the parish churches in England and Wales, at the hour of three o'clock, on the day of the interment. It was the unbought homage of a whole nation to departed greatness and heroism. It was a mark of respect which has never, we believe, before been paid on any similar occasion. As tower echoed back to tower throughout the length and breadth of the land the announcement that the obsequies of Wellington were finished; it was felt to be a greater sign how truly he had lived in the hearts of Englishmen, than all the ceremonial which it was the privilege of the inhabitants of London to witness.

While upon the subject of the funeral, we cannot refrain from expressing our satisfaction that the name and fame of the Duke of Wellington are to receive from his contemporaries some more satisfactory memorial than a public funeral, however magnificent—and than statues of marble or bronze, however costly or

conspicuous. We learn from a public announcement that, with a view to erect a monument to the memory of the Great Duke, to which all may contribute, which shall be worthy of its object and of the nation, and which shall be of permanent and important advantage to that service of which he was long the head and the ornament, it is proposed to erect and endow, by public subscription, a school or college, to bear the name of the Duke of Wellington, for the gratuitous, or nearly gratuitous, education of orphan children of indigent and meritorious officers of the army. Her Majesty the Queen has headed a subscription for this object with the munificent sum of £1000; and his Royal Highness the Prince Consort, his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, and several of the most eminent and illustrious of the nobility and of the officers in the army have followed with subscriptions of £500 each. We cordially wish success to this project—a far more sensible mode of rendering homage to the memory of the Great Duke, whom the nation delights to honour, than a state funeral—however splendid.

The gradual improvement in the condition of the Irish people is admitted by all recent writers and travellers. The famine and the pestilence—the collapse of the long agitation carried on by the late Daniel O'Connell—the still more rapid collapse of the "Young Ireland" delusion—the introduction of an apparently hard and stringent, but absolutely essential Poor-law—the emigration of the superabundant population—and, last of all, the highly beneficial working of the Act for the Sale of Encumbered Estates—all combined to awaken the Irish people to more correct notions of themselves, and of their connexion with this country, than were formerly current among them. We are glad to see that the present Government is not only fully aware of the real causes of this great and desirable change in the prospects of a country, of which the very name has so long been synonymous with misery and misrule; but that it has determined to extend the benefits of the system introduced by its predecessors, and to work out the regeneration of Ireland without reference to party considerations. The Attorney-General for Ireland, in a speech which reflects high credit on his legal ability, and on his statesmanlike comprehension, introduced on Monday evening a series of four measures for the improvement and simplification of land-tenure in that country. The object of the first bill is to facilitate the improvement of landed property, whether held by encumbered or unencumbered proprietors; of the second, to compensate tenants for the permanent improvements which they may have effected during their occupancy; of the third, to remove impediments now existing in the making of beneficial leases; and of the fourth, to consolidate, to simplify, to define, and generally to amend the laws which regulate the relationship and the transactions of landlords and tenants. In the eloquent peroration of his admirable speech, the right hon. gentleman truly described the series of measures as calculated to meet all the real wants and exigencies of Ireland. In preparing them, and in considering every suggestion made to him, "he had," he said "added many an hour of toil to a life of labour, and every suggestion which might hereafter be offered, from whatever quarter it might come, would be accepted, and considered in the same spirit in which these measures had been submitted to the House. He knew (he continued) the recompense often bestowed on those who preferred the moderate and equitable adjustment of extreme opinions and conflicting claims, and who considered the common weal as paramount to the selfish demands of any class or party. The man who is clamorous about rights and negligent of duties might depreciate his labours; the grinding middleman might dislike, and the factious or fraudulent tenant might heartily condemn; but for all this he was quite prepared. Enough for him if he had provided a free course for industry, and a hindrance to injustice. If he should have afforded the means of working effectively the resources of a land which God had blessed, but man had blighted, the recompense would be to him an exceeding great reward." We think the verdict of the wise, whether in Great Britain or in Ireland, will be unanimous in favour of Mr. Napier's attempt to forward, if not to complete, the good work of Irish improvement; and we trust that none of the chances or mischances of political and parliamentary strife will prevent his measures from being duly considered and from becoming the law of the land—of course, with such amendments as may hereafter be deemed advisable. At some future day, it may, perhaps, be found necessary to extend similar principles to other portions of the empire; but, in the meantime, it is right that the most suffering should receive the first attention. Such measures—and the adoption of strict justice to the tenants, as well as to the landlords—will, it is hoped, tend to the eradication of the greatest remaining obstacle to the improvement of Ireland, and the foulest blot upon the character of the people—the horrible practice of assassination—and the no less horrible sympathy of the populace with those who commit murder upon the persons of landlords, agents, and rent and rate collectors. Legislation cannot do everything, but it can undo much; and, in both of its functions, we consider the zealous and conscientious labours of the Irish Attorney-General to be well entitled to all the praises which they are certain to receive from the well-wishers of Ireland.

FINE ARTS.

BUST OF THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON. By ADAMS.

Mr. Adams, of Eccleston-street East, has just completed a bust of the late lamented Duke, which may fairly be pronounced to be, in every sense, authentic. It was undertaken, and has been completed with the sanction, and under the superintendence and guidance of the present Duke and his family, to all of whom it has given unqualified satisfaction. Her Majesty caused this interesting memorial to be brought to her for inspection, a few days ago, and pronounced herself well pleased with it; at the same time ordering a copy, in marble, to be prepared for her. Numerous other copies, in the same material, have also been ordered by some of the most intimate of the Duke's relations and acquaintances; amongst others, the present Duke Lord Charles Wellesley, Lords Hardinge, Tweeddale, Ely, Dynevor, &c.—affording ample testimony to the reliable and speaking character of the likeness. We visited the studio of the artist in the course of the week, and were indeed agreeably surprised, after having inspected scores of busts and portraits of the great Commander, with more or less approval, to find in the one produced by Mr. Adams an accuracy of feature, and a simple truthfulness of expression, which surpassed all former efforts, and brought, as it were, the living man before us. The marvelously intelligent eye and commanding brow, and the compressed lips, are especially characteristic. The head alone is given, as fixed straight upon the neck, and without any drapery; the whole being severely and classically correct. We understand that Mr. Adams is commissioned to produce a full-length statue, to be erected at Stratfieldsay.

CALLIGRAPHIC PORTRAIT OF THE LATE DUKE OF WELLINGTON.

Among other interesting relics of the great Duke brought to light by the recent melancholy event, we have been shown a very curious calligraphic production in the possession of Mr. Uloth, of Kentish-Town. It is the Duke's portrait, formed by a written scroll giving the history of his life and achievements, and executed with a common steel pen. The Duke is in military costume, with his numerous orders, the figure being surrounded by an oak wreath containing acorns, each bearing the name of one of his principle battles.

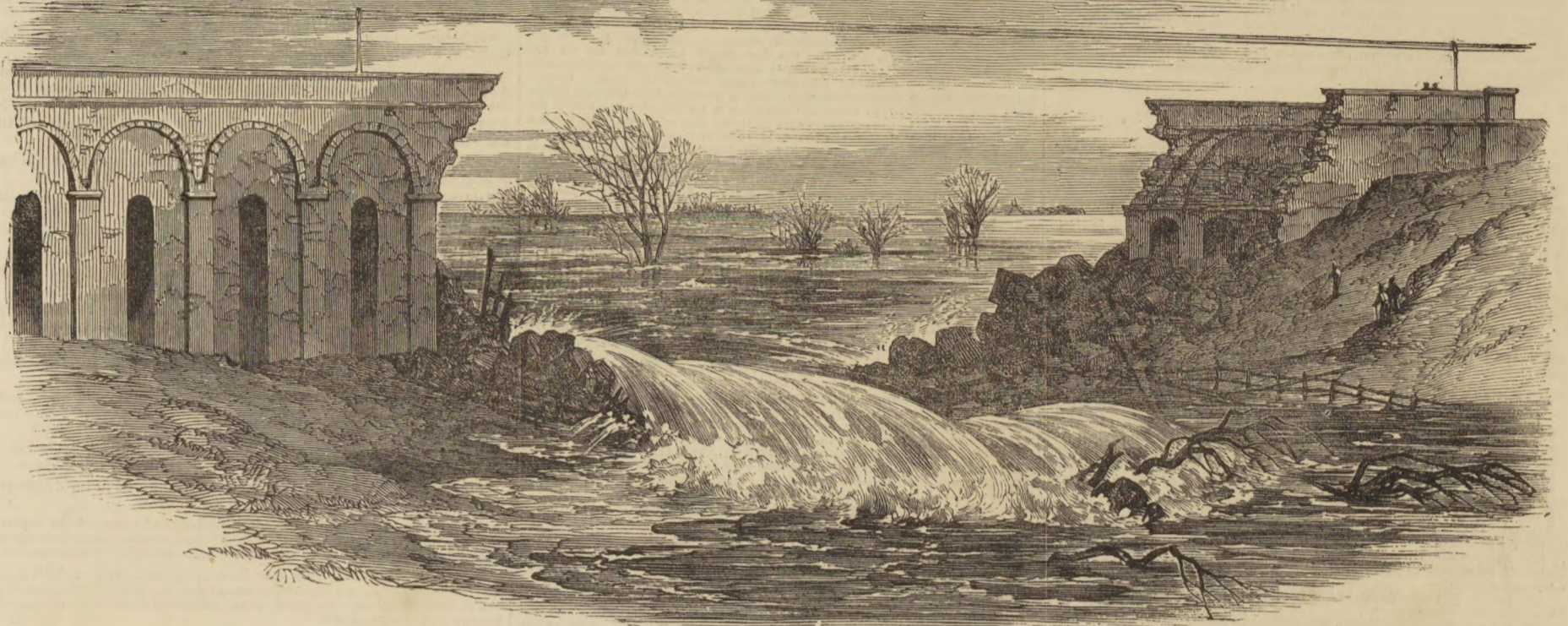
Although 411 pages of letterpress are contained in this work, the whole can be easily read with the assistance of a reading glass. It was produced some years ago, and was the production of an amateur who devoted immense labour and very great ingenuity to its completion,



EPITOME OF NEWS.—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

burg has assented to the settlement of the Danish succession according to the London Convention of the 8th of May.

FLOODS IN THE MIDLAND AND WESTERN DISTRICTS.



DESTRUCTION OF THE CROW-MILLS VIADUCT ON THE MIDLAND RAILWAY, NEAR LEICESTER.

In our Journal of last week we recorded the occurrence of disastrous and fatal floods, in various districts, by which property to an immense amount has been devastated. We now engrave a few of the localities of the catastrophes, from Sketches by our own Artists, as well as Correspondents, in the respective districts. The appearance of these Illustrations was unavoidably deferred last week.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

Leicestershire has been visited as seriously as any county. The town of Leicester, on Friday and Saturday (the 12th and 13th instant), was entirely insulated, from the overflow of the Soar, which arose several feet in the course of a few hours, and at the height of the inundation was eight feet above its ordinary level. All the houses in the low-lying districts were flooded four or five feet, in some cases even more, almost without warning. Many of the factories were invaded in the same way. Walls were washed down; and the destruction of pigs and sheep has been very great. Happily no lives have been lost in Leicester. Near Market Harborough, however, a post-office messenger was drowned. Melton Mowbray and the whole valley of the Wreake suffered equally with the valley of the Soar.

The Midland Railway has sustained great damage in several places: by the destruction of a great portion of the Crow Mills Viaduct, near Leicester; at Loughborough by the tearing up of the rails and washing away of the embankment; and at Manton from a similar accident. The first-named is the most serious disaster, the line having, in the other instances, been sufficiently repaired, after a day's stoppage, to allow of

the resumption of traffic on one line of rails, and now on both. The destruction at the Crow Mills Viaduct will not be so easily repaired, as our readers will perceive by the accompanying Sketch, for which we are indebted to Mr. F. Clarke, an artist of Leicester.

This viaduct is situated between the Wigston and Countesthorpe stations, in the Rugby direction, and crosses the canal and a small stream called the Blaby-brook, which can frequently be stepped over. The whole of the country about here lies very low, and there are many smaller water-courses, which feed this brook in time of rain. A high embankment of nearly a mile takes the line over this ground; this viaduct consisted originally of fourteen or fifteen arches. Last summer, the arches spanning the canal had to be replaced by an iron bridge. On the Thursday night week the waters had begun to accumulate so rapidly above the Crow Mills, that Mr. Perkins, the occupier, was on the watch all night: about five o'clock he heard a tremendous crash: he proceeded to the viaduct about 100 yards from his mill, when he found that one of the buttresses, with a considerable portion of two of the arches, had fallen. He immediately called up a neighbour, and despatched him to Countesthorpe, while he himself rode off to Wigston and Leicester, and there gave information of the accident. By this timely precaution, trains both ways were stopped, and a fearful loss of life and property prevented. At first, it was hoped that the remaining portion of the arches would stand, and allow of the passengers being handed over on the single line of rail, and so only necessitate the trifling delay of a change of trains. The directors and their officials passed and re-passed in this way many times during the day; the midnight down-mail passengers were enabled to get to Leicester; and within five minutes of the entire and instantaneous fall

of five of the arches, some of the company's servants were quietly passing over this treacherous way.

By Monday the company had made such arrangements for forwarding their passengers to Countesthorpe, as permitted of three trains being despatched each way per day. At a rough estimate, the loss to the company, irrespective of the annoyance and delay of traffic, will not fall short of £10,000.

The inundation had almost entirely subsided, when, on Saturday and Sunday, there was again a heavy fall of rain. The result was, the river Soar again overflowed its banks, and the streets of Leicester were again under water. The inhabitants of several streets near the West-bridge were unable to leave their dwellings except in carts, a number of which were occupied during the whole of the day in conveying persons through the flood.

HEREFORDSHIRE.

The city and county of Hereford were, on the 12th instant, devastated by the rapid rising of the rivers Wye, Lugg, and Frome. At eight o'clock, a messenger arrived at Hereford with the news that, at a place called "Five Bridges," in the parish of Donnington, six miles from Hereford, a bridge had, during the night been washed away by the flood in the river Frome, and that the mail, which is drawn by four horses, had been swallowed up in the stream. At that time it was supposed by the messenger that all on the coach had been lost; but this, happily proved to be unfounded. The "Five Bridges" cross the Ledbury-road, and it has transpired that the cries of the passengers, when they found themselves in so terrible a position, were heard by persons at Longworth Lodge, on the Hereford side, and at Donnington, on the Ledbury side



TAKING THE GLOUCESTER AND ABERYSTWYTH MAIL-COACH OUT OF THE RIVER FROME.

FLOODS IN THE MIDLAND AND WESTERN DISTRICTS.



FLOOD AT GLOUCESTER.

EALING.

(From a Correspondent.)

While every mail was bringing to London accounts of the floods in the provinces, we had an outbreak of the waters at our own door. Within

six miles of London the traffic on the Great Western Railway was suspended for several hours by a land-slip of the cutting at Ealing, which was produced by the defective drainage of that village. The land all around this vicinity, saturated with the recent heavy rains could absorb no more; the drains were insufficient to carry off the

Access, however, without boats was impossible, and a messenger on horseback was instantly dispatched to Hereford, whence a vanload of small boats was instantly sent, together with a body of men, to assist the sufferers. The coachman and box-passenger, it appears, were thrown upon the leaders, and, having got among some trees, or hedges, managed to save themselves from drowning. So with the other outside passengers and the guard, all of whom scrambled to the road; but Mr. Thomas Hardwick, a solicitor in Hereford, was inside the coach, and breathed his last almost immediately that he was rescued. The leading horses kicked themselves free, but the wheelers sank. One of the leaders, however, was drowned. A few of the mail-bags were got out of the coach by means of a pole, and among them the London bag. Thirteen bags remained on or in the coach, which, with the two wheelers, floated down the bed of the Frome. Here the coach lay until Tuesday, the 16th, when it was recovered by attaching ropes, and thus drawing it with horses out of the river.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

Great alarm was excited throughout this county on the 13th, by the alarming increase of waters in the Severn, through the "freshes" from the late rains, added to a high spring-tide. At Gloucester, the houses in the neighbourhood of the Quay, and in the lower portions of the city, were several inches under water. The flood soon increased two feet, and the whole country westward presented a scene of desolation. The water was up level with the South-Wales Railway, which crosses the low grounds adjacent to the Severn by a high embankment. During the whole of the day the water was running into the Gloucester and Berkeley Ship Canal, through flaws in the "stop-gate," used at the mouth of the canal in cases of flood to keep out the river water. This gate has not been closed for thirty years, the water in the Severn having never before risen to such a height as to lead to this precaution being employed. The traffic to Hereford and the western part of the county was almost entirely impeded. Much cattle and lock in the fields were carried away; and several carcasses were seen floating down the river. Our Artist has pictured the scene of devastation near Gloucester, with the singular scene of a railway train passing through the flood.

The next illustration shows an incident witnessed by our Artist from the coach on the road from Hereford to Gloucester. Here the toll-gate keeper was driven to the upper room of the toll-house, whence he descended by a ladder to take the toll. The boat in the foreground is conveying the parish surgeon, who was obliged to resort to this mode of conveyance, and lead his horse, till they reached a part of the road which is passable.

BLISWORTH CUTTING.

On the evening of the 13th, the 9 P.M. mail-train from the Euston-square terminus of the London and North-Western Railway proceeded at the usual rate till near Blisworth, when, in the steep cutting, it was stopped by a slip of earth caused by the heavy rains, the water, at the same instant, rushing with destructive force over the lofty banks. The guard was sent back some distance to stop the luggage-train. The clearing away of the fallen earth occupied about an hour, when the mail-train proceeded.



THE TOLL-GATE BETWEEN HEREFORD AND GLOUCESTER.



STOPPAGE OF THE MAIL-TRAIN IN THE BLISWORTH CUTTING, LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.



EALING STATION, GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

rapidly-increasing surface-waters; and early on Monday morning, the 15th, the flood, which had accumulated on Haven-green, beside the railway-station, and on some adjacent fields, having filled every surrounding ditch, broke bounds, and found a vent over the edges of the railway-cutting, and soon grew into a torrent of such force as to sweep down a mass of earth and gravel, which completely blocked up both the lines. When the accident occurred is not exactly known, but it must have been after quarter-past four, A.M., as at that hour, the up-mail train fortunately passed the spot in safety. Soon after, however, the alarm was given, and no time was lost in setting a number of workmen to clear the line. As the news of the disaster spread, the quiet little village was worked up to a state of excitement, numbers hastening to the bridge, which spans the line, where the inundation broke loose, and there, to their wonder, beholding a large waterfall sweeping down the bank, and rushing along the trench of the railway like a mountain stream.

The first object on the part of the authorities was to get the London morning mail down the line; and for this purpose, an ingenious bit of engineering took place. The shapeless mass of fallen earth was vigorously attacked by the workmen, and flung on the north, or up side of the line, so as to form a channel for the wild waters, and turn them upwards towards London; thus leaving the south, or down side, free from further accumulation of earth, and open to clearance. The well-plied shovels of the navvies did their work; and a locomotive engine, with several trucks attached, was at hand, to expedite the clearance. In the meantime, all the up trains were stopped at Hanwell; and here a scene of great pictorial beauty was presented: the entire valley of the Brent was flooded; that small stream having swollen to a raging torrent threatening the safety of the bridge at Hanwell, and roaring through the stems of the willows that fringe its banks. The noble Wharncliffe viaduct that spans the valley, reflected in the wide expanse of the outlying waters had a grand effect, and, at one time, six trains were to be seen upon it, arrested in their course, blowing off their steam, and giving animation to the picture.

The village of Hanwell became a scene of great activity; all passengers whose business made their early presence in London imperative, quitted the train and sought conveyance to town. It was a harvest for the omnibuses—seats were scrambled for, in and out—they were boarded and stormed in gallant style as fast as they appeared; while those who had more money than activity engaged chaises, flies, cabs, and even taxed carts, till at last every available vehicle above a wheelbarrow was put in requisition. All the old rattle-traps that had lain for long under sheds, and had become legacies to the legs of the poultry, were drawn from their retirement, and became tenants with the birds of passage of the railway, instead of the cocks and hens of Hanwell; and spavined and ring-boned, halt and broken-winded, were withdrawn from field work; and ploughboys were elevated to the rank of Jehus: it was new life to the road, and a great day for the turnpikes.

By eleven o'clock A.M. the down line was open at Ealing, and the trains presented a novel aspect in plunging their way through the water, for the rails were still completely immersed. The cutting resembled a canal; and the perfect reflection of the houses, bridges, engines, and carriages produced a most picturesque effect. Two or three trains had arrived before the line was quite open; and as they lay at the station, blowing off their steam, they attracted crowds of beholders; but these were only the idlers, the industrious people having quite enough to do at home in endeavouring to clear their kitchens and cellars of water, for every house in the village was flooded.

Later accounts state the inundations to have risen considerably higher within the past week. Reading, on Tuesday night, remained covered with water; hundreds of acres on each side of the Thames were submerged; and punts had been used for several days for conveyances on the Caversham road and causeway; and a vast sheet of water extended nearly six miles. No parallel flood has occurred here since the year 1841. At Maidenhead, on Tuesday, the Thames rose higher than hitherto, and rushed over the meadows and lowlands for many miles on each side of the South-Western and Great Western Railways; was hanging stately trees, stopping mills, &c. On the same day, the excessive rains again raised the floods to a great height, and on the Great Western Railway the water was two feet deep.

Early in the week, in the neighbourhood of Bristol, the river Frome again overflowed its banks. Between Bristol and Cleveland the moorlands appeared like a vast lake of water. At Ashton on the Somerset side of the river, most of the meadows were under water, and the country about Claverham was inundated for several miles.

At Nottingham, on Tuesday, the waters had risen within three feet and a half of the height attained on Saturday week.

At Shrewsbury, on Sunday, a large proportion of the 550 houses inundated by the Severn, obtained relief.

In many parts of Essex heavy floods have laid large breadths of the lowlands under water. On the North Woolwich line some damage has been done to the embankments. Boats have been used, and the inhabitants of some of the houses contiguous to the Eastern Counties line have been compelled to leave, the water, in some instances, reaching the upper floors. Even the backs of houses at Stratford Broadway have been flooded.

We regret to add that at Walton-upon-Thames, on the South-Western Railway, on Saturday evening, a farm-labourer, his wife, and two children, were drowned while endeavouring to punt themselves across a swollen moat in a beer cooler.

From Ireland the accounts still report great loss in the lowland districts of Leinster.

On Saturday the Waterford and Maryborough mail coach was near being lost in the floods on the road near Duckin-bridge, county Kilkenny. The coachman did not perceive his danger until "the leaders" were literally swimming.

In Kilkenny and Carlow the constant heavy rain caused a greater flood in the River Barrow than any remembered for many years. In Carlow, a portion of the town was inundated.

At Loughford, a large portion of the low-lying lands was covered with water, particularly bordering the Shannon.

On Friday week the river at Balbriggan burst the flood-gates of a mill, and the water, in its rush towards the sea, destroyed two houses, and drowned a woman.

FLOODS IN HEREFORDSHIRE.—The passengers inside the mail-coach (enraged on the preceding page) were Mr. Hardwick, solicitor, who was drowned, and Mr. Allen, solicitor, who was saved. These gentlemen, who represented the rival Worcester and Hereford Railway Bill, were proceeding to Hereford to insert the Parliamentary notices in the *Hereford Times*. Mr. Hardwick had his notices in his pocket, and they were taken out after his death, sent to Hereford, and handed to the paper just in time. Mr. Allen, while waiting at Gloucester for the coach, removed the notices from his trunk and placed them in his breast-pocket; and his portmanteau, which was washed away in the catastrophe, has not yet been found.

LAW AND POLICE INTELLIGENCE.

ACHILLI v. NEWMAN.—In the Court of Queen's Bench, on Monday, Sir Alexander Cockburn obtained leave for a new trial in this case, on the ground of misdirection—the verdict being against evidence—and of the exclusion of evidence.

SIR C. NAPIER v. THE "QUARTERLY REVIEW."—In the Court of Queen's Bench, on Tuesday, Mr. C. Chambers, on behalf of Sir C. Napier, moved for a rule to show cause why a criminal information should not be filed against Mr. Murray, the publisher of the *Quarterly Review*, for a libel published in the October number of that periodical. The libel charged him with incompetency, and with "an ungovernable determination to bring about war at any cost," while Commander-in-Chief of the army in India. Lord Campbell, the other Judges agreeing, refused the rule.

THE SIXMILE-BRIDGE CASE.—In the Court of Queen's Bench, Dublin, on Tuesday, the Lord Chief Justice delivered the judgment of the Court. After reviewing the facts, his Lordship stated that the Court had determined to refuse the application of the Attorney-General.

THE WAGNER CASE.—In the Court of Exchequer, on Wednesday, this case was advanced a step. Mr. Cressy having, upon a former occasion, obtained a rule nisi, calling upon the plaintiff to show cause why the defendant should not be allowed to demur to the declaration, as well as to plead to several matters proposed to be pleaded; Mr. Rogers (with Mr. L. Bailey), on the part of the plaintiff, appeared to show cause. After some discussion, the Court granted a rule absolute for the defendant to plead the several matters proposed. The demurrer and plea to be delivered in a week, but no further proceeding in this case, in fact to be taken, till demurrer has been argued.

THE EGHAM DUEL.—An application was made in the Court of Queen's Bench for allowing the prisoners to be bailed. The Court refused the rule.

CONTESTED ELECTIONS.—The late election appears likely to produce an unprecedented harvest for the gentlemen of the long robe. At the commencement of the last Parliament there were 37 returns petitioned against, and more than one-half of the petitions then were presented on the last day allowed by law. Up to Thursday, 107 were presented. There are some places for which more than one petition has been lodged, and there are many petitions that affect more than one seat each. The total number of members petitioned against is about 120. If we add to these the honourable gentlemen who claim exemption, on the ground of being over sixty years of age, the number of members capable of exercising judicial functions will be found to be very greatly reduced. Amongst the petitions presented, there was one against the return of the Lord Mayor of London for Finsbury.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—On the presentation of a petition by Lord Panmure, relative to the opening of the Crystal Palace on Sundays, the Earl of Derby took the opportunity of stating the proceedings and opinions of Government on the subject. It had been determined that a charter should be granted to the Crystal Palace Company; and with regard to the opening of the Exhibition on Sunday the Government had inserted some restrictive clauses in the draft which had been prepared. Subject to these restrictions—to which the company willingly agreed—he believed that so far from it being a desecration of the Sabbath, great advantages would result to the mass of the population from the Palace being opened on that day.—The Earl of Clanricarde considered that, in a proper state of the law of partnership, there would be no necessity in cases like the present to apply for a charter at all. He regretted that the Government had neglected this among its other law reforms.—Lord Campbell expressed his satisfaction at the state and prospects of the New Exhibition.

CONVOCAION.—The Earl of Derby, in reply to Lord Shaftesbury, stated that it was not the intention of Government to depart from the usual practice with regard to Convocation.

POLICY OF GOVERNMENT.—Lord Clanricarde asked a question, of which he had given notice, with regard to the public business to be brought forward this session.—The Earl of Derby, after reviewing generally the conduct of Government since its tenure of office, and stating that the recent elections had convinced him that it was his duty to advise her Majesty that the principle of unrestricted competition ought to be adopted, said that, after the motion of the 26th instant had been disposed of, it was not their intention to bring forward any important measure during the present session.—Lord Wodehouse made some general remarks condemnatory of the proceedings of the Government as equivocal, and wanting in good faith.—On the "terms, the language, the tone, or the good taste" of those remarks, Lord Derby said he did not think it necessary to make any observation.—This drew from Lord Wodehouse a disclaimer of any personal or offensive inference, and the amendment being graciously accepted by Lord Derby, their Lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

THE CASE OF MR. PAGET.—In reply to a question put by Mr. Milnes, Lord Stanley said it was true that Mr. Paget, who had been resident for two years at Dresden, had had his house entered and his papers seized by the police; but it was not true that the seizure had been made by the Austrian police, but by the police of the country in which he resided. The result of the remonstrance made to the Saxon Government was that Mr. Paget's papers had been restored, and the police who had entered his house had received a severe reprimand.

ECCLIASTICAL COURTS.—In answer to Sir B. Hall, Mr. WALPOLE stated that the Government were of opinion that there ought to be an effectual reform of the Ecclesiastical Courts, but that no bill should be introduced for that object until the whole question now under investigation, had been fully considered; that the Crown had no power to prevent what Sir Benjamin had termed "Romish" proceedings in the Church; the best mode of checking which would be found in the good sense of the people of this country; and, lastly, that he did not see that the Government ought to interfere with the life-incomes of any of the Bishops.

CALL OF THE HOUSE.—On the motion by Sir J. WALMFLEY, in the absence of Mr. Hume, that the House be called over, Sir R. INGLIS having objected that the call would be a *brutum fulmen*, and a waste of time; after a few words from Messrs. Cobden, Walpole, and Lord J. Russell, the motion was withdrawn.

IMPROVEMENT OF PROPERTY IN IRELAND.—Mr. NAPIER moved for leave to bring in a bill to facilitate the improvement of landed property in Ireland. After noticing the difficulties which beset the framing of a code of laws to regulate the relations between landlord and tenant in Ireland; and giving a sketch of the agricultural history of Ireland, and of the policy which England and the Imperial Legislature had pursued with reference to the Irish question, he then developed the objects he had in view to remedy the agricultural evils of Ireland, in the bills he proposed to introduce. The first was to enable owners themselves to carry out fully improvements of the soil, by drainage, &c. The second was to facilitate the making of beneficial leases and contracts, and agreements for compensation for improvements of lands, which would promote concord and harmony between landlord and tenant by showing that they had a common interest; while the tenant would enjoy a full legal protection, and the landlord's just rights would be secured. A third bill would simplify, consolidate, and amend the existing laws which regulate the relation of landlord and tenant; founding that relation upon the principle of contract, and providing facilities for effecting such contracts, along with remedies more prompt and effectual than those now existing for violation of contracts, withholding of rent, burning of lands, and other wrongs; simplifying, at the same time, the law of ejectment. The last bill would provide compensation to tenants for improvement of their holdings, a large portion of the land in Ireland being held by tenants from year to year. It was not intended to interfere in any way with the tenant-right of Ulster. It was proposed to enable the tenant to offer to undertake improvements, unless the landlord chose to avail himself of the means of effecting them, which would be placed in his power; and retrospective improvements, made by the tenant before the passing of the law would be provided for by a compensation for their unexhausted value, without resorting to schemes that would lead to the compulsory adjustment of rent.—Mr. CONOLLY spoke warmly in commendation of the proposed measures.—Mr. SERJEANT SHEK said there appeared much in these bills which was well worthy the consideration and adoption of the House; but he was convinced that the last bill would give no sort of satisfaction in Ireland. That part of the bill which related to prospective improvements was Lord Stanley's measure over again.—After a few remarks from Messrs. George, Kirk, W. P. Urquhart, and from Lord Naas, who denied that there was any similarity between this bill and Lord Stanley's, leave was given to bring in the four bills. The House adjourned at half-past 9 o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

FREE TRADE.

Mr. C. VILLIERS rose for the purpose of moving the following resolutions:—"That it is the opinion of this House, that the improved condition of the country, and particularly of the industrious classes, is mainly the result of recent commercial legislation, and especially of the act of 1846, which established the free admission of foreign corn; and that that act was a wise, just, and beneficial measure. That it is the opinion of this House, that the maintenance and further extension of the policy of Free Trade, as opposed to that of Protection, will best enable the property and industry of the nation to bear the burdens to which they are exposed, and will most contribute to the general prosperity, welfare, and contentment of the people. That this House is ready to take into its consideration any measures consistent with the principles of these resolutions which may be laid before it by her Majesty's Ministers." The hon. gentleman commenced by declaring that the vagueness of the Royal Speech had rendered it incumbent on him to do what he had done. The House had met for the purpose of receiving the answer of the country as to what policy should be pursued, and accordingly he (Mr. Villiers) could not consent to waive his motion at the suggestion of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. His motion was not intended to upset the Government; at the same time, he did not see why he should have any confidence in them. There was one point in the amendment which he was glad to find admitted: an admission that one of the acts of recent legislation had cheapened the provisions of the country, and thereby improved the condition of the people. During the discussions which ended in the repeal of the Corn-laws, it was said it was a labourer's question; that they would suffer were these laws repealed. This was the ground on which the hon. gentlemen had taken their stand. Supposing his motion were carried, and gentlemen in office resigned, he believed the country would be able to get over the calamity; especially he hoped the Chancellor of the Exchequer would continue in office. The hon. gentleman continued:—"I have here in my hand a calculation which exactly illustrates the policy which I hope the Chancellor of the Exchequer intends to pursue. The City of London alone affords a most conclusive illustration of the enormous effects that are produced by a reduction in the price of articles of food upon the availability of the people's means for purchasing other articles. The population of London, according to the most moderate calculation, is 2,500,000. From July, 1828, when the sliding scale was enacted, up to the end of 1841, when it was abolished, 14,787,990 quarters of wheat were admitted, 12,452,562 of which, or 84 per cent., were not admitted until the price exceeded 70s. per quarter. 70s. per quarter for wheat gives 60s. per sack for flour. The quarter loaf would then be 11d., it is now 7d. The consumption of the population of London is not less than two quarters loaf per head per week; so that the saving is 8d. per head per week, or £1 18s. per annum; being, for the whole population, £4,750,000. Again, as to sugar:—In London, where the consumption is greater than in the country, the allowance to servants is half-a-pound each per week for breakfast and tea alone; the middle and upper classes consume not less than 50 lbs.; so that the average may fairly be taken at 30 lbs. The soft sugar, that, up to 1845, was 7d., is now 4d. to 5d.; the loaf sugar, that was 10d. to 11d., is now 5d. to 6d.; and probably half the consumption of London is loaf sugar. Take the reduction, as a low average, at 3½d., the saving is 8s. 9d. a head per year; or, for the whole population, £1,093,750, the entire consumed giving about 26½ lbs. per head. In coffee, on a similar calculation, the gain to London is £166,666; and in tea, £125,000, representing a total of £5,735,583 in London alone, there being a proportionate gain also to the country and to the provincial towns." He (Mr. Villiers) was desirous to impress these facts upon the first Minister of the Crown, who did not seem to be aware that the difference between food and any other article is, that food is a thing of necessary consumption, and that it depended entirely upon the price and abundance of that whether any thing else was consumed. The amendment referred to the working-class; he did not confine himself to them, because he thought that there was no possibility of affecting them by legislation which did not also benefit the whole community. He believed all interests were benefited by the Act of 1846, and no compensation was necessary to any class. Agriculture never was in a better position. Mr. Villiers said—"I asked a large occupier and farmer of land, who is, besides, employed by many noblemen and gentlemen as their land-agent, and who

moreover, is largely intrusted with the sale of land, what he thought of the condition of the landed interest; and he told me that he had not known it for years in so rook a condition as it was in now. I asked him whether land now sold for more than it used to fetch, and he replied 'Most undoubtedly'; that speaking from 25 years' experience, he had never known land sell so well as now; that he himself had sold, within the last few months, a great deal of land at more than 30 years' purchase, and that some pasture land, which a few years ago sold for 27 years purchase, had recently fetched, under his hand, 33 years' purchase. The farmer and the labourers also were well off. What the farmers wanted was equitable agreements with the landlords. The proceedings of the Royal Agricultural Society had shown that farming, to be carried on profitably, required improvement. The farmers had been an ill-used class. Their distress had been made capital of by gentlemen opposite. But the farmers had grievances, such as the Law of Distraint, the Law of Settlement, the Game-laws, and the want of Tenant-Right, which ought to be attended to. The hon. gentleman then referred to Lord Derby's remarks as to the influence of the discovery of gold in Australia, and concluded his speech amid loud and protracted cheering.

Mr. EWART having seconded the resolution, The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved, by way of amendment, "That this House acknowledges, with satisfaction, that the cheapness of provisions, occasioned by recent legislation, has mainly contributed to improve the condition and increase the comforts of the working classes; and that, unrestricted competition having been adopted, after due deliberation, as the principle of our commercial system, this House is of opinion that it is the duty of the Government unreservedly to adhere to that policy in those measures of financial and administrative reform which, under the circumstances of the country, they may deem it their duty to introduce." The question before the House was not, whether the Corn-laws should be repealed, nor whether the Sugar-duties should be repealed—not whether Protection or Free Trade, to use the language of the hon. and learned gentleman, should be repealed or supported; but whether her Majesty's Ministers by their conduct since their accession to office have fulfilled their pledges to Parliament and the country; and whether, having announced that they differed from the opinion of the country, on a subject of great importance, they have, frankly or otherwise, communicated to the House the resolution at which they have arrived. The Protectionist party opposed the repeal of the Corn-laws for two reasons. "We," said the Chancellor of the Exchequer, "opposed that change on two grounds. The main ground was, that we believed it was a change which would prove injurious to the interests of labour. That was the main and principal ground on which I myself individually placed it: was it or was it not the cause of labour? We opposed that change for a second reason, because, irrespective of the great and principal objection which we entertained to it, we believed it would occasion injury to another considerable interest. And on a subsequent occasion, in 1850, when the matter was incidentally referred to in the House, I myself used the expression with reference to the Corn-laws, that it was a question of labour, or it was nothing." Shortly after the repeal of the Corn-laws came that of the Sugar duties, and that of the Navigation-laws. The five years which elapsed between the election of 1847 and the recent dissolution were mainly engaged in discussions and legislation upon the agricultural, colonial, and shipping distresses. "It is a fact," asserted the hon. gentleman, "which it may be convenient for members to forget, the accuracy of which cannot be questioned by those who have had experience in the business of the House, and which it may be well for those who have not that experience to remember—that, from the time that the repeal of the Corn-law was passed until the present moment, not a single attempt has been made in the House of Commons to abrogate the measure of 1846." No effort of such a kind was made, because the Protectionist party felt there were no facts before them of a sufficiently large character to convince them that the condition of the working classes was injured by the Act of 1846. With regard to the Sugar-law, a committee was appointed, with but three Protectionists on it, which decided that there ought to be a differential duty of 10s. per cwt. in favour of colonial sugar. As to the Navigation-laws, so far from attempting to re-enforce them, the present First Minister of the Crown took an early opportunity of saying that he thought that that was a step which it was impossible for the Legislature to retrace. All along the Protectionist party had refused to attempt to alter the Act of 1846. In 1851 he (Mr. Disraeli) had brought forward a motion, the object of which was, to relieve the cultivators of the soil from the pressure of local taxation; and though that was lost, in a full House, only by a majority of ten, it did tend to the alteration, and to placing the power in the hands of its present possessors. Lord Derby then declared a policy of compromise and conciliation. All Lord Derby proposed was, that the descending scale, which made a division between the rate of duty upon colonial and foreign sugar, should be arrested, and that only for a time, while the colonies were suffering from the great trial through which they were passing. As to the Navigation-laws, Lord Derby only proposed declaring that any recurrence in that respect would be impossible, after the removal of those restrictions which the noble Lord opposite himself condemned. Lord Derby did not succeed in forming a Government in 1851. It therefore became necessary to consider his position with regard to this question; and, after due consideration, it was his opinion that it would be extremely unwise and injurious to bring forward in Parliament, in that or any subsequent session, any motion which directly or indirectly maintained the great industrial controversy which had so long prevailed. The Government of which the hon. Member for London was the head fell to pieces from internal dissensions, and again Lord Derby had to form a Cabinet. The answer given to all inquiries as to future commercial policy, was, that Government was about to appeal to the people, and would await the result. The Chancellor then quoted from the speeches of Mr. Gladstone, to show that his conduct had received the sanction of the Peelite. The hon. gentleman then referred to the speech of the member for Wolverhampton, and gave his reasons why he would not agree with it. The agriculturalists had had a fair fight and been beaten, and now it was attempted to bully them. It was said the Queen's Speech was reserved. The same complaint had been made while Lord J. Russell was in power, by the Manchester school. If they were to be censured for retaining office, the same censure was due to Sir R. Peel, who opposed the Reform Bill, and yet became Minister after it had become law. If that notion were carried out, Parliamentary Government would be impossible. After putting it to the House, who were to take the places of the present Ministers, should they be turned out, the Chancellor of the Exchequer concluded by appealing to the new members not to become the tools and victims of exhausted passions and obsolete politics. The hon. gentleman then resumed his seat amidst continued cheering.

Mr. BAILEY, after alluding to the significant circumstance that Mr. Disraeli had described himself and his party throughout his speech as "Protectionists," reminded the right hon. member of various occasions on which his friends—if not himself—ad brought forward motions directly against the present commercial system of the country. The argument of the right hon. gentleman was mainly one of recommitment; he had sought simply to show that others were as bad as himself. The Government now chose to call themselves Free-Traders; but he reminded them that it was upon principles of Protection—as far as the counties were concerned—that they gained their places in the House. The House had met there to agree to a final verdict upon the question; and he asked them if Mr. Disraeli or Mr. Villiers was the most proper person to draw it up? The hon. member denied the truth of the favourite Protectionist maxim that the Corn-law was given to the landed interest to relieve them from peculiar burdens; and he maintained his ground with historical facts and statistics. The old Corn-law was always the law of the strong, and had caused nothing but calamity since it first received the Royal assent until the Royal assent was given to the act that repealed it. Referring to the Free-Trade opinions now held by the Government, he read, amidst the laughter and cheers of the House, a long list of Protectionist professions made by several of those right hon. gentlemen to their constituents at the last election, as well as similar professions from a large number of their supporters. He found members of the Government avowing themselves willing to bow to the result of the country's decision. It was that course which he now advised them to take. He asked how it was possible that the Free-Trade members of the House could place confidence in the maintenance of the system of the present Government, when it was well known that three-fourths of the supporters of that Government were as much attached to Protection as ever? The hon. gentleman, after severely tanning Mr. Disraeli with not having contributed a single feather's weight towards the present prosperity of the country, while men whom he reviled had spent the whole of their political lives towards that end, concluded by expressing his sincere hope that the important question before them would that night be settled for ever.

Mr. BEN SEYMOUR, in supporting the amendment, defended the Government, as the only one that the country, who were tired of the Whigs, and afraid of the Radicals, could be expected to tolerate.

Mr. F. FEEL was not contented with the Free-Trade professions of the Government, who wished their opponents to receive them as converts, rather than to brand them with the stigma of apostasy. In July, the majority of that party were Protectionists, and the present converts were principally among those who had become warmed in the race for office. He thought, too, that some reparation was due for the past. They all remembered how that party had received one case of political conversion—a conversion that, compared with the present, was attended with a tenfold amount of palliation—and it would be only fair if that party were now compelled to declare the Free-Trade policy of 1846 a "wise, just, and beneficial measure."

Lord PALMERSTON, considering the ambiguous nature of the Speech from the Throne with regard to the commercial policy of the country, thought it doubly necessary that some such resolution as the present should be adopted by the House. He concurred in the resolution, as to the past, the present, and the future. But he was compelled also to consider the convictions of others who were desirous to concur in the proceedings on the subject. He referred to the large party which had honourably yielded to the force of events. The Government amendment did, he thought, contain an ample recognition of Free Trade, and a pledge to it. If anything, the amendment was stronger in form than the resolution; while there was a clause in the latter which the gentlemen opposite found an effectual bar to their acceptance of it. All the country cared to know was, what Parliament meant to do, and he thought that demanding a recantation of private conviction favoured or the inquiry. He wished some middle course could be suggested. He deprecated the turning into a party struggle that which ought to have elicited from the House a solemn recognition of a domestic policy. His Lordship concluded by moving—"That it is the opinion of this House that the improved condition of the country, and especially of the industrious classes, is mainly the result of recent legislation, which has established the principle of unrestricted competition, has abolished taxes imposed for the purposes of Protection, and has thereby diminished the cost and increased the abundance of the



"THE IRISH GLEANER."—FROM AN ORIGINAL SKETCH.

THE IRISH GLEANER.

THE DAWN OF A BRIGHTER DAY.

BY FRANCIS BENNOCH.

From the bustling east to the idle west—
From the north to the southmost shore—
O'er hill, through bog, in light and fog,
You may travel all Ireland o'er.
Where energy, liberty, love, were dead,
Or in senseless stupor lay,
Hope—smiling beams,
And its radiance streams
On the dawn of a brighter day.

The pestilence came like a quenchless flame
On the breath of a poisonous wind;
You might reckon its force and track its course
By the ruin it left behind:
Nor beauty, nor youth, nor sex was spared—
Its mission was still to slay!
From the desolate past
There cometh at last
The dawn of a brighter day.

Though kindred fled from kindred dead,
They have found a home afar;
They have labour and rest in the beautiful West,
Where trusty brethren are.
And those who remain in their own dear land
While justice bears the sway—

Have prosperous lives;
For labour thrives
In the dawn of a brighter day.

What matter, although the pauper's rags
May flutter before the breeze!—
Dead leaves are seen 'mid the living green
Of the leafiest forest trees.
Though poverty lurks, and beggary works,
In the South, wherever we stray;
Yet, all around
Is increasingly found
The dawn of a brighter day.

Here many will find hearts warm and kind;
Maids beautiful, lithe, and sweet—
You might envy the favoured grass they press
In the tread of their naked feet!
A flood of melody swells the voice,
And stealeth the soul away:
'Tis beauty supreme
Fulfilling the dream
That told of a brighter day

By head and hand, on sea and land,
The present its future weaves;
By hill and plain, or where ears of grain
Are gathered among the sheaves,
A spirit of love in labour lives,
Bringing health and wealth away
The night has flown,
The light has shone—
'Tis the dawn of a brighter day!

TOMB OF LOUIS PHILIPPE.

SOMEWHAT more than two years since, on the morning of September 2, 1850, the remains of Louis Philippe were interred in the vault of the beautiful little chapel, built in the garden of Miss Taylor, at Weybridge. The tomb beneath which the Royal remains were deposited was made in London, and completed at Weybridge, in about four days before the burial, under the superintendence of Mr. Banting, of St. James's-street, to whom the funeral arrangements were confided.

The monument having been duly consecrated, the coffin was inclosed within it. It is an altar-tomb, of simple design, covered with a large slab attached by the upper end to the wall, and supported at the foot by a pair of small columns. On the portion nearest to the wall are sculptured in relief the arms of the ex-King, surmounted by a Royal crown, and beneath the escutcheon is engraved the following inscription:—

Deposita jacent
sub hoc lapide
donce in patriam,
avitos inter cineres,
Deo adjuvante, transferantur,
Reliquie.
LUDOVICI PHILIPPI primi,
Francorum Regis,
Claramontii, in Britannia,
Defuncti
die Augusti XXVI,
Anno Domini MDCCL.
Etatis LXXVI.

Requiescat in pace.

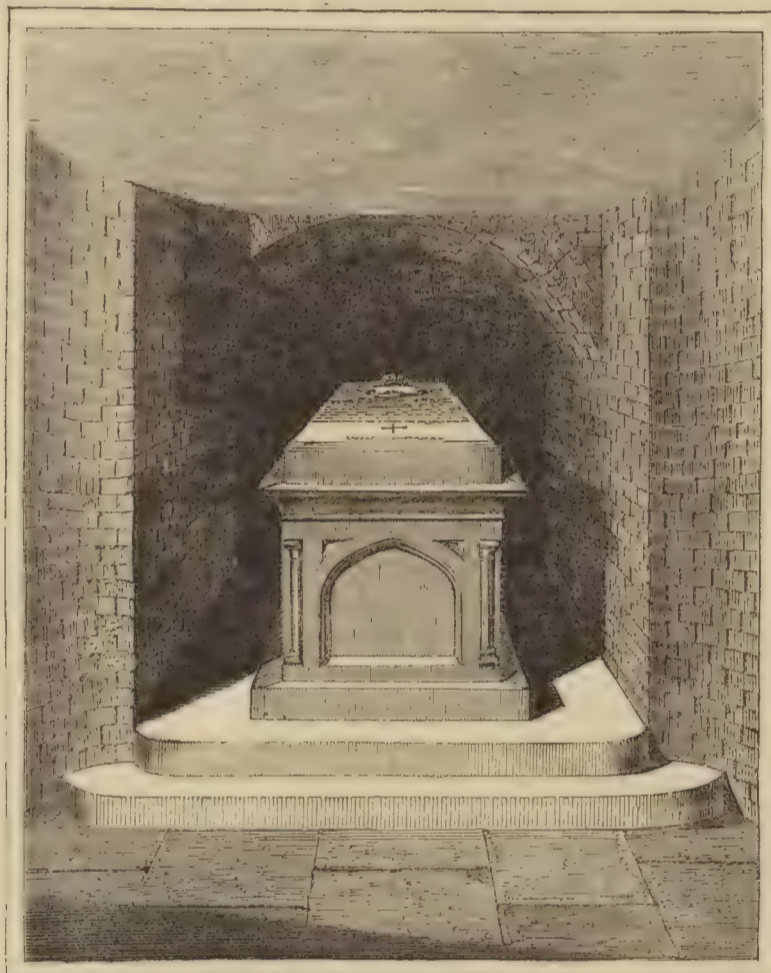
The above interment is still considered as temporary; since it is the wish of the family of Louis Philippe that his remains should be removed to France.

THE AFRICAN MAIL STEAMER, "FORERUNNER."

THIS new vessel, the first of a set of five screw steamers to conduct the mail contract service between this country and the coast of Africa, arrived from Sierra Leone on Sunday evening, at Plymouth.

The *Forerunner* left Plymouth, with the mails, &c., on Sept. 24; arrived at Madeira, Sept. 30th; Tenerife, Oct. 1; Goree, Oct. 6; Bathurst (Gambia), Oct. 8; and Sierra Leone, Oct. 12. Having discharged her mails and cargo, landed her passengers, and taken in fresh cargo, and received the mails and passengers for England, she left Sierra Leone, on her homeward voyage, Oct. 18; Bathurst, Oct. 23; Goree, Oct. 24; Tenerife, Oct. 31; Madeira, Nov. 2; was dismantled Nov. 4, arrived at Gibraltar, Nov. 8; left Nov. 14; arriving at Plymouth Nov. 21.

On the 4th of November, when the wind was blowing from the west-north-west, the *Forerunner* running under double-reefed topsails, the wire rigging gave way, and foremast, mainmast, and funnel were swept away. There was a very heavy sea at the time, but the vessel was brought to the wind under close-reefed mizen, and she rode out the gale in fine style. At sunset Captain Atkins brought his vessel up under lower studding sails set on a jury foremast, for Gibraltar, to refit: in consequence of the loss of the funnel it was impossible to get up the steam to even half power; but, using two headless casks as a temporary funnel, sufficient draught was obtained to get steam to a 5-lb. pressure. The *Forerunner* in this way arrived at Gibraltar on the 8th instant, for the purpose of refitting the vessel. There every assistance was received from the Hon. Captain Grey and Captain Codd, of the *Firebrand*, and, having refitted, the *Forerunner* left Gibraltar on the evening of the 14th; Captain Atkins having been presented by the passengers with a letter congratulating him on the coolness and ability with which he had encountered the storm, and thanking him for his uniform kindness. She experienced strong head winds in passing through the Gut, and encountered heavy weather all the way home, notwithstanding which she made the distance from the Rock to Plymouth Sound in the short space of a week. She passed the ship *Arthur* on the morning of the 21st in the Channel, bound from Calcutta to Cork.



TOMB OF LOUIS PHILIPPE, AT WEYBRIDGE.

The *Forerunner* has been proved to be a good vessel, possessing great powers of speed during the voyage; and it would seem, by the cargo of palm-oil, gold, bees-wax, oranges, &c., and the passengers she has brought, that she has been the precursor in steam communication with parts of the world which promise a considerable increase to the trade of this country.

The *Forerunner*, having landed her passengers, left Plymouth for London on Monday morning.

This new vessel was built by Mr. Macgregor Laird, at Birkenhead; and is 160 feet in length, between the perpendiculars; has 22 feet beam, and 12 feet 6 inches depth. She is rigged as a three-masted schooner, and propelled by two engines of 50-horse power, constructed by Fawcett and Preston, of Liverpool.

The *Forerunner* is handsomely and strongly constructed: her iron plates are made to overlap each other, inwardly and outwardly alternately. She is sharply moulded forward and aft, and under the water remarkably so; while she runs into much water bearing amidships. The vessel has an elliptic stern, and for a figure-head she bears Mr. Laird's arms.

The vessels to complete the line are to be named *Faith*, *Hope*, *Charity* and the *Northern Light*; each of which will be considerably larger than the *Forerunner*. The same principles will be applied in their build; and the speed is required to be at a good average rate. It is interesting to find that these vessels are building on the banks of the Mersey—not only as regards the credit of the port, but as significant that an important share of the trade in iron shipbuilding, is returning to Birkenhead, where it originated upwards of twenty years ago.

THE DUKE AND WILLIAM IV.—Dining at Queen Charlotte's table, on his return, in 1814, from the Peninsular campaign, Wellington happened to be placed next to the Duke of Clarence, who observed to his mother, "that on entering the port of Cork, while in the naval profession, in 1787, an escort of honour awaited to conduct him to the city, commanded by a young officer, whom he was then happy to find seated beside himself, a loyal guest, invested with all the distinctions which merit could carry or power bestow.—From *Notes and Queries*."

POOLE.—(From a Correspondent).—Those who were unable to pay their tribute of respect to the lamented Duke, by swelling the crowd at his funeral, evinced their feelings here by the general suspension of business in the town, the shops being closed and the bells tolling from an early hour. The shipping had their flags half-mast high, and at Branksea Castle, the residence of Major Waugh (10th Hussars), minute guns, to the number of eighty-three were fired from the batteries, at three o'clock in the afternoon.



THE AFRICAN MAIL STEAMER "FORERUNNER."

THE WELLINGTON TREE ON THE FIELD OF WATERLOO.

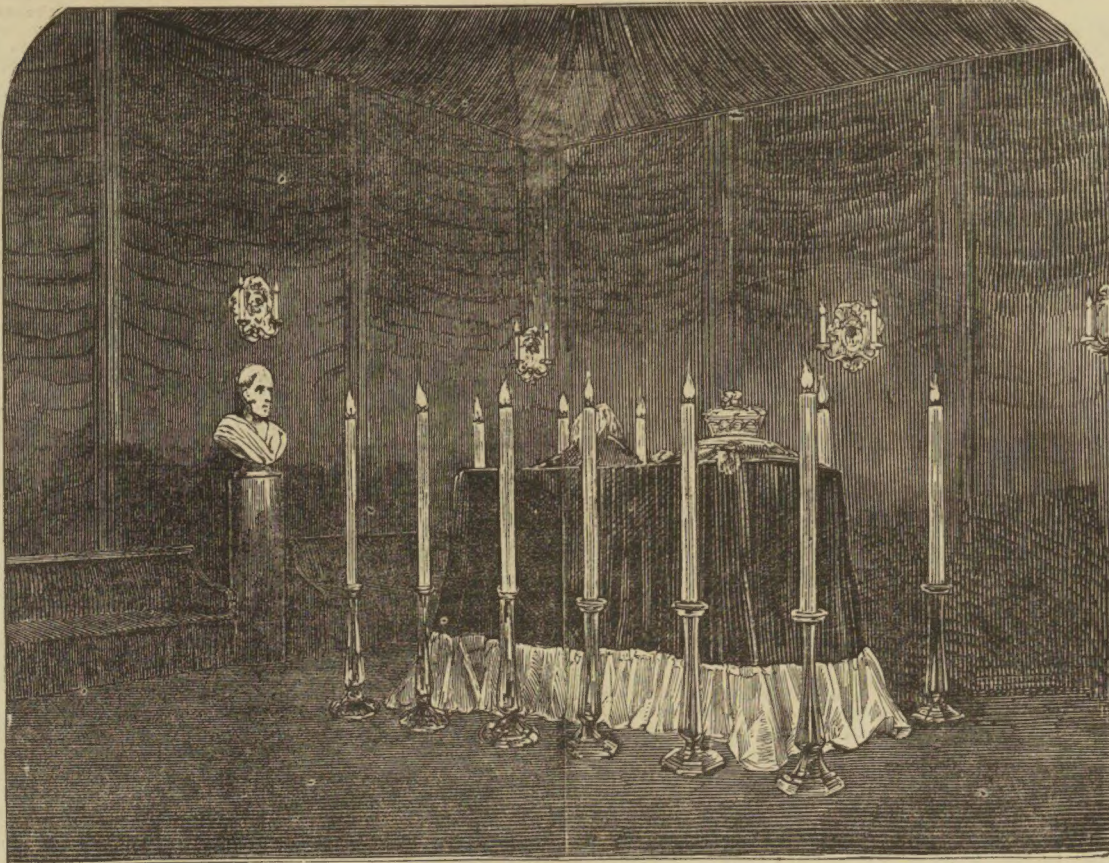
We have been favoured by a Correspondent with the accompanying accredited account, by the late Mr. Children, F.R.S., of the Wellington Tree, upon the field of Waterloo: beneath which, it will be recollected, he Duke was stationed during part of the memorable battle.

"Brussels, Sept. 30th, 1818.
"On Sunday morning last, I visited the field of battle, accompanied by François Brassiné, one of the guides from Mont St. Jean, who attend



THE WELLINGTON TREE.—SKETCHED ON THE FIELD OF WATERLOO.

travellers, to point out the positions of the French and Allied armies. My daughter had seated herself to take a sketch of the tree, when François called to us to proceed; and on my explaining the reason of our stopping, he exclaimed, "Ma foi! en bon tems! car demain il va tomber!" And so it was: the earth was already cleared away, and the roots prepared by the axe to receive the saw, which, the following day, was destined to bring it to the ground. The eager but unfortunate desire of thousands to possess a morsel of the tree had completely removed the bark, through its whole circumference, for nearly three feet in height, and in many places considerable por-



THE AUDIENCE CHAMBER AT THE HORSE GUARDS THE NIGHT BEFORE THE FUNERAL.—(SEE PAGE 474.)

tions of the wood had been cut off. In this state it would have been impossible to preserve the life of the tree, even had the owner, who occupies the farm of Papilote, been willing to suffer it to stand. The injury done annually to his corn, which was trampled under foot by the visitors to the tree, determined him to make the tree a sacrifice. Anxious that it might remain, though in death, a triumphant memorial of the great events it had witnessed, I directed my guide to treat with the farmer for the sale of it, and became the purchaser of the tree. It is now on its way to England, and I trust the purposes to which it is destined will not be thought unworthy of this illustrious, though silent, record of the skill and gallantry of the greatest General and bravest troops that ever fought and conquered.

"Although it has thus fallen to my lot, to be the temporary possessor of this treasure, I hope I shall not be accused of having become so unworthily; and that I may be allowed to express my regret that proper measures were not taken to preserve the tree till removed by age and natural decay. (Signed) "JOHN GEORGE CHILDREN."

The most remarkable relics of this tree are a chair, now in Windsor Castle, presented to his Majesty George IV., by Mr. Children, and engraved in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for Sept. 25 last; another chair given by Mr. Children to the Duke of Wellington, in which we have heard he mostly sat for his portrait; and a third chair, in the possession of his Grace the Duke of Rutland, at Belvoir Castle. There is also in the British Museum a very curious portion of the tree, having an iron chain inside it, which must have been wound round it when a sapling, and over which the wood had subsequently grown. Mr. Children himself had a cabinet made of this wood to contain minerals, now in the possession of his son-in-law and daughter; and many of his friends possess smaller articles manufactured from the tree.

THE DUKE A FREEMASON.

(To the Editor.)

EDINBURGH, Nov. 20th, 1852.

I am induced to copy the annexed account of an event in the life of the late Duke of Wellington, in the persuasion that it is but little known. It is a curious fact that most of the Duke's military friends and associates were members of the Masonic fraternity. Witness Lord Combermere, a very keen Mason; the Marquis of Tweeddale, a Past Grand Master of Scotland; the late Earl of Dalhousie, also a Grand Master of Scotland; and various others, dead or living. It

is also remarkable that Soult, and other Marshals of France whom the Duke met in fight, were Brothers of the Craft of Peace. I am, &c., W. P.

"MASONIC INITIATION OF THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON.—This distinguished Brother, when Colonel of the 33rd Regiment of Foot, was initiated into Freemasonry in Lodge 494, which was at the time held in the Castle of Dangan county Meath, the late Earl of Mornington, his Grace's father, being the Master at the time. He was duly passed after the usual examination, and (in the phraseology of the Lodge) entered at the southern gate, and afterwards raised. The following Brethren, being members, were present; many of them in the words of the Irish bard, have been 'famous in story': viz. Sir James Somerville, Bart.; Sir Benjamin Chapman, Bart.; Ham. Georges, M.P.; — Delvaine (late) Earl of Westmeath; Robert Uniacke, M.P.; Richard Boyle, M.P.; John Pomeroy, William Forster, George Lowther, M.P.; Earl Mornington, Marquis Wellesley, F. North, (late) Earl of Guildford; Robert Percival, Robert Waller, Richard Le-ley, Arthur Wellesley. The Lodge has for many years been in abeyance, but has never surrendered its warrant. The venerable Brother, Christopher Carlton, through whose fraternal kindness the above interesting particulars have been communicated, filed the offices of Master and Secretary for several years; and, finding at length that he could not succeed in effecting a sufficient gathering of the craft to work the Lodge, he prudently took the warrant into his personal charge, and maintained the credit of the Lodge by paying half yearly dues from his private purse, as though it were working in prosperity."—The Freemasons' Quarterly Review for 1836, Vol. III., p. 442.

SURVIVING WATERLOO OFFICERS.

AXMINSTER, DEVON, 21st Nov., 1852.

(To the Editor.)

I take the liberty of pointing out to you an omission in the list of the Waterloo officers, given in your last number, which, as the list purports to be strictly accurate, you will perhaps do me the favour to rectify in your next. The omission is the name of Lieutenant-Colonel M'Alester, 35th Regiment, who has now the honour to address you, and who then commanded the 2nd Battalion 35th Regiment, attached to the 3d Division of the Duke of Wellington's army. I have the honour to be, &c., C. A. M'ALESTER, late Lieut.-Col. 35th Regiment, and an Old Subscriber

(To the Editor.)

I beg leave to call your attention to the omission in the list of the surviving Waterloo officers, in your paper of Saturday last, of the name of Major A. D. Hamilton, late of the 73d Foot, who retired on half-pay in June, 1837, and finally sold out of the service in 1841, with the rank of Major; as reference to the Army Lists for 1837—1841 will prove.—I am, &c., your obedient servant, 17, Great Russell-street, Nov. 23, 1852. JAMES A. HAMILTON.



THE FUNERAL TENT AT THE HORSE GUARDS.—TROOPS PRESENTING ARMS.—(SEE PAGE 474.)



THE STRAND.—THE PROCESSION PASSING SOMERSET HOUSE.—THE SCOTS GREYS.—(SEE PAGE 475 OF SUPPLEMENT.)